What was First Minister Carwyn Jones AM doing in Porthcawl? To find out, turn to page 7.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH 2010

THREE VALLEYS LIBRARIES ARE MARKED DOWN FOR CLOSURE

Report by JAYNE ISAAC

BRIDGEND'S cabinet decided on Tuesday to accept a report from Mark Shephard, the head of healthy living, which recommended closing the libraries at Blaengarw, Nantymoel and Caerau next October.

The proposals are part of a wide-ranging shake-up in library services which will be implemented over the next 10 years.

A report to cabinet stated that Blaengarw Library is a "poorly-performing" service point, which was only a mile from a much better library at Pontycymer.

Although the library provides a service to Blaengarw Primary School, where it is located, older people would be better served by a mobile service which would visit four different locations within the community.

The closure of this library was first proposed during the time of the Rainbow Alliance administration and opposition was led at that time by Labour activist David Pugh, who has since won the seat for the party on the borough council.

He told The GEM that he was not happy with the proposal, but would be consulting members of the community to see what action should be taken.

"Although they have taken this decision, as far as I am concerned, it is still open to question and is not final.

"We would always oppose the loss of any facility in Blaengarw. We may look at other ways of providing this service."

The report says that Nantymoel Library, located in the Berwyn Centre, is within easy travelling distance of a much better-equipped library at Ogmore Vale Life Centre.

The mobile library service would be introduced as an alternative and this would stop at four different locations.

But some element of the library could be retained at The Berwyn in partnership with a community enterprise group if this was financially supported by the community.

At Caerau, the library at Noddfa Chapel Community Centre serves a small number of users, mainly deprived children. It has no potential to be developed further and its future must be dependent on partnership funding. There is already a mobile library service to Caerau which adequately serves the community.

Coun Ken Hunt said that there was poor patronage of the library which had a very small book stock. He said that there were more books on the mobile library.

But he added that ways would be found of keeping the computer suite and other facilities which could be run by Noddfa itself. He said that Communities First would be looking at different ways of providing these facilities.

Coun Phil White explained that footfall at the library was low and had fallen. But he said work was going on to see if a service could continue at Noddfa through co-operation with other agencies.

The cabinet has also agreed to reduce opening hours at Maesteg, Porthcawl and Pencoed libraries. They will all close for lunch between 1pm and 2pm on every day except Wednesday when all three close anyway at 1pm for half day closing.

Bridgend Library will stay open at lunch times because usage is high but will close for Wednesday half day.

Betws Library, which is part of the Life Centre, will no longer provide seven half-day sessions, but five. This means that one person can operate Pontycymer and Betws libraries. These changes will come into effect next April.

The Porthcawl Council Information Point, now located in the old police station in John Street, is to move to the town library from October 2011. This will enable the service to be provided for longer hours, including Saturdays.

The other major change agreed is that from 2013, the Cyberlink Service, which is located in a bus that tours the area, will be changed as the bus will then be 12 years old and in need of replacement.

The vehicle will be withdrawn but a reduced service will operate from existing static IT suites.

All these changes will be implemented under a three-year plan agreed by the cabinet.

Longer term, within a 10-year time scale, other changes are in the offing.

These include relocating Bridgend town library and the reference library to a redesigned Bridgend Recreation Centre – but this will only be possible if enough money can be found.

The report also states that library services in Maesteg should be located on a single site.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

'It's panto Jim' – but not as we know it!

Blaengarw Panto Group headed into outer space with their new adventure 'Space Nuts – Return Of The Jedward' (See pages 4 and 5 for a full report and more pictures).

Suspended sentences given after £11,400 Maesteg cannabis find

Report by AJ SICLUNA

CANNABIS plants with a potential yield worth £11,400 were found when police searched a house in Maesteg.

In a bedroom were 25 mature plants in a tent and heated by lighting, and in a wardrobe were 30 less mature plants.

Prosecutor James Evans told Cardiff Crown Court the potential value of the yield of all the plants would have been £11,400.

Victoria Ferguson (23), a taxi company employee of Bridgend, pleaded guilty to producing cannabis and offering to supply the drug.

Simon Kendall (27), a motorway vehicle recovery driver, also of Bridgend, admitted producing cannabis.

Ferguson was jailed for 12 months, suspended for two years, made subject to a supervision order for 18 months and ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work and to pay £500 costs.

Kendall was sentenced to 11 months, suspended for two years, made subject to a supervision order for 18 months, ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work, and to pay £1,000 costs.

Judge William Gaskell said: "I accept that this was a comparatively modest number of plants, but there was a potential street value of more than £10,000.

"Cannabis can trigger schizophrenia, which is incurable. Others have their brains so affected they could almost be incapable of doing any work."

Mr Evans said that in May last year the police went to Ferguson's then address in Maesteg, where she was with Kendall, and found a "small cannabis factory". Outside in Kendall's BMW was paraphernalia for producing cannabis.

Ferguson, said Mr Evans, was the prime mover, assisted by Kendall, and on her mobile phone were text messages offering cannabis for sale.

Meirion Davies, for Ferguson, said the facts spoke for themselves and she always accepted being the prime mover, but apart from her stupidity in committing the offences, there was much to be said positively about her.

Since the search, he said, she had committed no further offences and is cannabis-free.

"She has got off her backside and tried to do something with her life. She is far from idle."

Kevin Seal for Kendall said: "He lent some assistance to the enterprise.

"He has been addicted to cannabis for 14 years, but is clearly hardworking and industrious."

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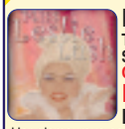

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COUNCIL ISSUES A DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTOCOL TO HELP EMPLOYEES WHO FALL VICTIM

EMPLOYEES who suffer domestic abuse have had a pledge of support from the Bridgend County Borough Council and trade union partners.

A spokeswoman explained this week that the authority has developed a new "domestic abuse protocol" and managers' guidelines, setting out its commitment to providing a safe workplace, responsive to issues of domestic abuse and violence.

"It reminds employees of the help available, including management and HR support, information on external and partner organisations, which are able to offer advice and support, and access to the council's own confidential counselling service," she said.

"Managers are being encouraged to learn and spot the early signs of domestic abuse amongst team members and will be able to offer changes to the workplace to make it a safer place for affected colleagues, including adjusting working patterns and workload and providing appropriate time to seek support or make arrangements on things like alternative childcare or accommodation."

Launching the new protocol, Deputy Leader Coun David Sage, said: "Bridgend County Borough Council is dedicated to providing every employee with a safe and supportive workplace.

"While we have always sought to offer support to colleagues affected by domestic abuse, this new protocol is a very clear statement of how seriously we take this as an issue.

"It is important to stress that we are not aware of any particular or significant issue in this area, but we do want to ensure all colleagues, male and female, and regardless of their position in the organisation, are aware of the support we can provide.

"Domestic abuse affects all kinds of people and can take many forms, including mental as well as physical bullying. It is frequently hidden but we want to make this much less of a taboo by offering affected employees this guidance and help."

In a joint statement, Unison, GMB and Unite, said: "We believe that domestic abuse is an issue for us all. At least one in four of us will experience it at some stage in our lives."

Praising the initiative, Karen Miller from Bridgend Women's Aid commented: "Bridgend Women's Aid welcomes and fully supports this domestic abuse protocol and managers' guidelines. It is encouraging to see BCBC launching an initiative that seeks to raise awareness of domestic abuse and encourage victims to access available support.

"Publicity of this mostly hidden behaviour is always welcome. Bridgend Women's Aid commits to providing support in any way possible," she concluded.

LEFT: *The launch of the domestic abuse protocol in Bridgend. BCBC and its trade union partners have pledged to help provide a supportive workplace.*

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

'The lesson is that it's the council which decides!'

I REFER to the letter headed '*Councillors who are afraid of their own shadows*' from Coun Sweet in last week's GEM.

There are a number of points that Coun Sweet may come to learn as she gains more experience as an elected councillor.

The first is that if she puts a proposal forward at a council meeting, not all councillors will agree with her. Some, like myself, will make a counter-argument, and it's up to the council to vote for or against.

So when Coun Sweet accuses me of 'persuading' other councillors to vote against her proposal, she needs to understand that this is what we mean by democracy, and this is how it works.

Secondly, Coun Sweet needs to realise that it really is not appropriate to question council's decisions via letters to the press, in which she makes personal and unfounded attacks on fellow councillors. This is not the first time she has done so, and it could be construed as calling the council into disrepute.

Now to the substance of Coun Sweet's letter: She quotes me, almost correctly, as saying: "*We can't be seen to spend money on land that isn't ours*".

Quite right too... How can the Town Council justify spending public money – no matter how small an amount – on doing works on land whose ownership we do not know, and whose owner may not wish that work to be carried out?

If Coun Sweet wishes to scatter some seeds on the land as she is strolling past, let her do so. I won't complain.

But I will not support this being done by the Town Council.

Coun Sweet sneeringly describes this as doing things 'the right way'. Would she prefer we do things the wrong way?

If people have lost faith in politicians, Coun Sweet is certainly not helping to restore that faith. And anyone who knows me would surely laugh at the idea that I am '*afraid of my own shadow*'.

She is criticising me for '*doing nothing at all*'. I'm afraid I have to disillusion her, and tell her that I get at least as much criticism for the things that I do put in place – such as the crossing she talks about.

She can't have it both ways. Does she think I'm doing too little or doing too much?

I will continue to work for the residents of East Central, and I will continue to work with fellow councillors of all parties for the benefit of Porthcawl, until the electorate decides otherwise.

In the meantime, I will accept a public apology from Coun Sweet, and put her tirade down to inexperience – and a lack of understanding of the democratic process.

Coun Alana Davies,
(Cabinet member for children; ward member: Porthcawl East Central)

Riding the rails at Porthcawl

I HAVE fond memories of the miniature railway that ran along the seafront at Porthcawl, but is now no more than a faded memory in the minds of many.

However, since the Coney Beach Railway existed until the early 1980s, it carried children who now have stronger memories than mine.

Would any reader care to share their thoughts on riding the rails? Your recollections of the CBR from the slightest to the strongest are welcome.

Peter Williams,
4 Greenhayes,
Chipping Sodbury, England BS37 6DT

If you Love2Walk join the festival!

HUNDREDS of walkers are being given the chance to explore rural areas in Bridgend county borough during the Love2walk Festival 2010 (October 6-10 at Kenfig Nature Reserve).

All walks are free of charge and led by expert local guides. Building on the success of the council's Discovery Walks weekend in September last year which attracted over 300 visitors to the area, the Love2Walk festival promises five full days of fun activities for all.

This includes opportunities to learn Welsh while you walk, check out the local environment while nature rambling, test your bat detecting skills – or try out some bushcraft.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
07 Thur	06.28	10.2	16.47	10.62
08 Fri	07.11	10.52	19.30	10.78
09 Sat	07.54	10.61	20.14	10.66
10 Sun	08.35	10.45	20.56	10.29
11 Mon	09.16	10.07	21.37	9.71
12 Tues	09.57	9.51	22.17	9.01
13 Wed	10.38	8.85	22.59	8.26
14 Thur	11.26	8.19	23.52	7.58

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

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BLACKMILL 'WORKSHOPS' APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

by JAYNE ISAAC

AN innovative scheme which would see workshops developed complete with living accommodation, has been deferred by Bridgend councillors.

The application, for land at Blackmill, had to be withdrawn at the last full council meeting when Coun Bob Burns pointed out irregularities in the report. It will now have to come up again.

The full council was being asked to approve the application as a departure from the Unitary Development Plan after the Development Control Committee decided it was not disposed to refuse it.

If councillors agree, then the application will go to the Welsh Assembly Government for a final decision.

The application is for 43 residential units including some live-work units plus an enterprise centre on land adjacent to Cwm Ogwr Fach and Ebenezer Court.

The development would take place on land owned by Barratt South Wales and BCBC. Some of the Barratt land would go for open market housing which would form an extension to existing housing in Cwm Felin,

Twenty two three-bedroom houses are proposed with some affordable housing also provided as part of that scheme. More housing would be built on the council-owned land when 13 two and three bedroomed semi-detached or terraced houses would be provided.

An enterprise centre would be built on some of the land, provided match funding can be obtained. This would provide up to 6,000 square feet of floor space for small businesses.

The facilities would be shared with the community which would be able to use them for their own activities outside of working hours.

The site would be accessed off the estate road serving Isfryn Industrial estate.

The scheme would also provide eight live-work units on land between the houses and the enterprise centre. The studio/workshop elements would be located separately to the rear of the living accommodation at the front.

This would enable people to run a small business from their home. Wales and the West Housing Association is interested in developing this part of the site.

Barratt's have proposed a land swap of some of their land for some owned by the council.

They say that this will make the site easier to develop and result in more houses being provided which would mean Barratt could offer up to £300,00 towards the provision of the enterprise centre.

Councillors heard that having private investment would be a huge benefit when attempting to secure extra funding from various bodies.

Earlier applications to develop this site have all been refused by the council.

The application is out of accord because the land has been designated for employment purposes and not housing in the unitary development plan.

The report stated that the live-work component of the scheme was an untried concept in the area and in south Wales generally and piloting this one would enable people to judge whether it could be applied elsewhere.

Allowing these houses to be built would mean that Ogmore Vale Primary School would not be able to cope with the extra children who would be living there from 2014.

But an investigation has revealed that a number of children at Ogmore Vale live within the catchment of Nantymoel Primary School. If those children went to Nantymoel instead, that would offset the extra children from Blackmill.

A number of residents in Blackmill have objected, including those living in Cwm Felin, Dimbath Avenue, Glen View, Dolau Ifan Ddu and Pleasant View.

Residents argued that the loss of a proposed community centre on the site was unacceptable as was the loss of employment land.

Residents also argued that the drainage system in the area could not cope already without any extra run off from this development.

There are also concerns about loss of privacy, devaluation of properties plus increased traffic hazards.

Coppice Alupack, which operates a factory nearby, has also objected, especially over problems associated with noise and disturbance to the new residential units.

Planning officer David Llewelyn recommended that the application be approved, subject to a series of planning conditions.

He said that the mixed use development could benefit the local economy.

It will now come up at a future council meeting.

LIONS CLUB OF BRIDGEND NEWS

Competitors duck out of race

THERE'S a saying about taking to something easily is like a duck taking to water, well, Bridgend Lions Club has doubts about that old adage.

The Lions recent duck race in Bridgend had to be cancelled because the ducks wouldn't jump in the water and get wet.

Spokesduck, Bill, told the club that he did a risk assessment for the duck race team and he decided that there was too much water in the river and it was probably very cold, too!

Bill said that ducks are very health and safety conscious and he couldn't risk his team getting bird flu!

So, the Lions Club found that they had no choice other than hold a lottery draw on dry land to decide the winners. The lucky winning duck numbers are 955, 2,421 and 992, and their owners have been notified.

The real winners of the duck race are local causes and charities which will be benefit from the £3,000 raised through the generosity of members of the public who bought tickets.

Bridgend Lions are sorry that the race didn't happen as expected, but they will be sending the ducks for re-training and buying the ducks some thermal wear in time for next year's event.

David Jones (Lions Club of Bridgend)

ABOVE: The lifeboat crew secure the yacht ready for towing.

Lifeboat rescues yachtsmen after a May Day call

PORTHCAWL Lifeboat answered a May Day distress call on Saturday evening when a yacht, drifting on to Nash sandbank, was hit by large breaking waves.

"The Llanelli-bound yacht had left Cardiff barrage earlier in the day and the young crew were unsure of their position, had engine failure, and were being pounded by breaking waves," a spokeswoman reported.

"With the assistance of the directional finding equipment on Porthcawl Lifeboat which was turned on at the station, coastguards were able to get a rough idea of the yacht's position.

"The Lifeboat was launched to search in the Porthcawl area, using the direction finding equipment and eventually the yacht was located."

Lifeboat crew were put on board the yacht to assess the situation and discovered that one of the young crew was suffering badly from sea sickness. The boat was towed back to Porthcawl harbour, where the crew of the yacht were met by local coastguards and paramedics.

ABOVE: One of the yacht crew was suffering from sea sickness.

Carl Evans Helm, of the Porthcawl Lifeboat, commented: "This was a challenging incident, which tested the skill of the crew to the maximum.

"All crew worked well together to rescue the yacht, which by the time we located it, was in a well-known dangerous area just to the north of Nash Sands.

"The boat had put out their anchor just at the right time, which prevented them drifting onto the cliffs at Southerndown.

"This incident highlights the necessity for all boat owners to carry VHF radios, flares, lifejackets and charts.

"If the boat had not had a radio, there would have been a possibility that no-one would have known they were in danger, and the Lifeboat would have taken much longer searching for them," he added.

Award-winning Army cadets impress an MP

ALUN Cairns, MP for the Vale, recently visited the Dyfed & Glamorgan Army Cadet Force (ACF) at the Cadet Centre in Bridgend.

Major Stephen John, Cadet Executive Officer of the Dyfed & Glamorgan ACF introduced him to young cadets who were on parade and working through training schedules.

"The Army Cadet Force is a national voluntary youth organisation for boys and girls from the age of 12, sponsored by the Army and provides challenging military, adventurous and community activities.

"Its aim is to inspire young people to achieve success in life. This year the Army Cadet Force celebrates its 150th anniversary," Mr Cairns said. It was great to meet the young cadets, they told me about the broad range of fun, exciting, challenging and adventurous opportunities they've had through being a cadet.

"I was really inspired by their energy and commitment to their training and activities within their Detachment. There are 52 detachments within the Dyfed & Powys region alone.

"The cadets had just returned from their hugely successful participation in the Cambrian Patrol Exercise in the Brecon Beacons.

"The event is the premier patrolling event of the British Army which is held in Wales and from what I understand, is arduous, concentrates on leadership, teamwork, physical fitness and achieving the mission.

"I was delighted to be able to join them in celebrating their individual and collective achievements at the Cambrian Patrol.

"The Dyfed & Glamorgan ACF entered five teams from its seven home Companies & Squadron and they walked away with two Gold, two Silver and one Bronze medal – scooping the overall award, the prestigious Buckthough Trophy during such an important anniversary year.

"Well done to all involved, I've no doubt that a lot of hard work and commitment was needed to achieve this success – the ACF are a real force to be reckoned with!" the MP added.

CANNABIS FOUND IN A CRISP PACKET

– court hears

Report by AJ SICLUNA

POLICE who searched a house for drugs in the Bridgend area, discovered cannabis in various locations, including a crisp packet.

Shaun Pemberton (20) who had no previous convictions, made a "full and frank admission" concerning the drugs, said prosecutor David Thomas at Cardiff Crown Court.

Pemberton, of Pyle, admitted that for two years he had been running "an enterprise", selling small amounts of drugs and making £100 a week.

He pleaded guilty to supplying cannabis and possessing the drugs with intent to supply and was sentenced to 10 months' detention in a young offender institution, suspended for two years, made subject to a two-year supervision order, and a four-month curfew from 8pm-7am, involving electronic tagging.

He was told by Judge Rhys Rowlands: "You pleaded guilty to what are serious offences which normally attract custodial sentences.

"You are only 20 and your offending began when you were 17."

But, said the judge, Pemberton had a lot to lose and in view of his age and other factors, the judge was regarding it as "an exceptional case".

Mr Thomas said that when Pemberton's home was searched, the police found 54.5 grams of cannabis and he admitted how long his enterprise had lasted.

He said he paid £350 for the drugs and would sell them for £600.

He said he bought them from someone he would not name in the Brackla area of Bridgend.

Defence counsel Owen Williams said: "He has always been regarded as hardworking and trustworthy, and he is someone who learns from his mistakes.

"He pleaded guilty at the first opportunity and supplied only two existing users of drugs.

"He is now fully aware of the criminality involved."

NEWS IN BRIEF

WI evening

A PENCOED evening WI will be held at St David's Church Hall on Wednesday, October 20 at 7.30pm to hear more about the WI and a talk by Glamorgan WI's federation chairman, Pam Dinham on their Tall Ships Experience.

For details, call 01639 881588.

Christmas fayre

PORTHCAWL Primary school is holding its Christmas fayre on Saturday, November 27 from 12 noon to 3pm at Porthcawl Primary school, Meadow Lane, Porthcawl CF36 5EY.

There will be funfair rides, a Christmas cafe, arts and crafts room, lots of lovely stalls and Santa's Grotto.

For more information, call Annette on 01656 788554.

Choral Society seeks singers

PORTHCAWL Choral Society is looking for singers to join in rehearsals for a production that celebrates the night when shepherds were awe-struck by miracles telling of the birth of Jesus Christ.

'Night of Miracles,' a Christmas cantata by John Peterson, will be performed on Friday, December 10 at All Saints, Porthcawl.

The choir rehearses each Monday in Trinity Church at 7.15pm. For further details, telephone 01656 788148.

MEP surgery

WELSH Labour MEP for South Wales Central, Derek Vaughan, will hold an advice surgery, open to residents, businesses and organisations in the Vale and Cardiff on Friday, October 15 between 11am and 12.30pm at Transport House, Cathedral Road, Cardiff.

Anyone with an EU-related issue or concern must book an appointment by contacting his office on 02920 227660, or via email contact@derekvaughanmep.org.uk.

‘SPACE NUTS – RETURN OF THE JEDWARD’ TAKES TO THE STAGE AT BLAENGARW!

Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347)
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

BLAENGARW Panto Group is a small community theatre group that is heading into its 10th anniversary year with shows such as *Cinderella*, *Aladdin*, and *Jack and The Beanstalk* already behind it.

The group has now headed into outer space with a new adventure *Space Nuts – Return Of The Jedward*.

The show is a homage to great shows such as *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*, but with a very different twist.

All proceeds go towards the Chernobyl Children’s Lifeline, helping the group to send lorries of aid out to the orphans of the Gorodets School in Belarus, and also to bring some of the Russian children to Wales to stay with host families for a month.

***Space Nuts* was produced and directed by the cousins Jonny and Garry Sage, and the choreography was by Greg Sage.**

The atmosphere was fantastic, with a full house. The audience screamed with laughter throughout the show.

The cast was: Jonny Sage, Garry Sage, Kevin Jones, Andrew Redway, Tammy Harris, Hywel Rose, Carrie McCarthy, Don Sage, Rhiddion Davies, David Davies, Lana Laidler, Alana Swift, Bethan Hillier, Ria Davies, Hannah Palmer, Leah Davies, Laura Worrall and Demi Ward.

Burkes Crew were Cory Sadd, Nia Clatworthy, Megan Buckle, Jayson Walsh, Kelsie Sage, Mia Tilley, Emily Elward, Kate Anthony, Millie Hopkins, Ioreth Millard, Jacob Phillips, Kai Sadd, Lucy Morgan, Kosie Pinches, Phoebe Morgan, Jade Ledward, Liam Anthony, Ffion Jones.

BLAENGARW AUDIENCES THRILL TO THE LOCAL PANTO GROUP'S SPACE FANTASY

Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347)
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

Post office wins plaudits from the Ogmore AM

THE Ogmore AM Janice Gregory has congratulated staff at the Aberkenfig, Blaengarw, Caerau and Llangynwyd post offices after they successfully applied to the Post Office Diversification Fund.

Janice Gregory AM

They receive a share of the £725,000 which the Welsh Assembly Government is making available this year to help post offices expand the range of services they offer or to upgrade their premises.

The AM commented: "It's remarkable that four of the 41 post offices across the whole of Wales that have won these grants are in the Ogmore constituency. It is a tribute to the hard work of all concerned. I am delighted – post offices are at the heart of the community and are a lifeline for many people."

The four post offices will use the grants for their own particular projects including installation of disabled-friendly doors, new facilities, improved signage, training and staffing.

Janice Gregory went on: "Different post offices will use the grants for different things but there is a common purpose. The grants are designed to help us to keep post offices open by ensuring that sub-postmasters and sub-postmistresses have sustainable and viable businesses.

"I am delighted that so many post offices in Wales have been able to take advantage of the fund."

Homeless young people at local charity's event

YOUNG people from Llamau, south Wales' homelessness charity, were lucky enough to enjoy a sunny day for Llamau's annual Big Event which gives the people involved in its projects the opportunity to get together for a fun day of activities.

Spokeswoman Deborah Holland reported: "The young people themselves organised games and competitions, while staff showed off their culinary skills on the barbecue, keeping everyone fed.

"Other activities included an African drumming workshop, and a sumo wrestling competition which proved highly entertaining as service users and staff alike took turns to don sumo suits and wrestle each other to the ground."

Said 17-year-old Aiden from Bridgend: "It was really good to go somewhere different for the day. There was loads going on. I really enjoyed the penalty shoot out competition, and it was good to see a real band like Flo Dem."

Llamau's operational director, Sam Austin, said: "It is really important that our young people get opportunities like this to enjoy and express themselves creatively.

"Many of them struggle on a daily basis with the sheer effort of survival, and don't have the support networks to be able to have fun and do their own thing that more fortunate young people take for granted.

"We would like to say a big thanks to Urban Circle and Flo Dem for helping out today, and a special thank you to Dinas Powys Rugby Club, who open their facilities to us every year."

Vilis hangs up handcuffs after 22 years service!

SPECIAL Constable Vilis Kuksa, who recently retired after 22 years service was thanked in a ceremony at Barry Police Station.

"I always found police work interesting and exciting, but could not join up full time as I had my own business, so, in 1988, I joined the Special Constabulary," he explained.

"As well as having full police powers, I've gained many skills through the high level of training, making me more confident and proud to wear the uniform. I've made many new friends, learnt to work as a team with my police colleagues and work on my own.

"I've decided to hang up my cuffs now, as I'm 55, recently re-married and my own work commitments have increased, but I'm missing it already!"

Chief Supt Carl Davies, Commander for the Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan area personally thanked Vilis for his hard work: "Vilis has spent 22 years providing a fantastic service to the people of Penarth," he said.

Vilis was well known within the community and had made a real difference. We wish him well for the future and a happy retirement."

THUNDERCAT RACING THRILLS CONEY BEACH SPECTATORS IN PORTHCAWL...

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk or www.ffotoimage.co.uk (telephone 01446 773225).
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

RACERS from all over the UK battled it out on Coney Beach, Porthcawl, in the final rounds of the Thundercat National Championship on October 3-4

Event organiser, James Tapp told The GEM: "The Porthcawl event is one of the most extreme waterborne events to hit Wales. There was a great atmosphere over the weekend's racing!"

There were also plenty of thrills and spills over the two days, as illustrated by these action shots taken by photographer GLYN EVANS.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Public meeting

A PUBLIC meeting will be held in the Treoes community hall on Monday, October 11 at 7pm to discuss the future of the hall.

Unless residents of Treoes are prepared to form a hall committee, there is a possibility the hall will close, which will prevent the local Brownie group and Young at Heart Club holding their weekly meetings.

I understand every household in the village has received notification by post of this meeting.

Planning applications

LAND at Ten Acres, close to The Maesydd Llangan – proposed replacement tractor and implement shelter.

Tennis area

IT is hoped final arrangements will soon be in place at Treoes to progress the awaited allotment, so those interested in growing their own produce can begin work.

Book sale

THE book sale which took place in Llangan community hall was successful. I was surprised to see so many books by well-known authors at such a low price (three books for £1). I have enough reading matter to last for a month or two!

Halloween

*ON October 28, a halloween children's party will take place and on October 30, a halloween fancy dress party will again be held in the hal*l.

Burglaries

THERE have been a number of burglaries in and around the villages of St Mary Hill, Llangan and Treoes during the past months.

If you see or hear anything unusual in your neighbourhood, please contact your local constabulary.

Wales' No.1 chippy!

FINNEGANS is one of 10 regional winners from across the UK to reach the final stages of the National fish & Chip Awards 2011 competition, having been shortlisted in the 'best independent takeaway fish and chip shop award' category.

Finnegans had two shops shortlisted for the award, both owned by Welsh-born husband and wife team, Huw and Sara Jones.

The Bridgend shop has been a finalist in this category before; with the other shop, in Porthcawl, landing the top prize in Wales last year.

"It will now 'batter' it out it out with nine other regional winners for top 'plaice' as the UK's Best independent fish and chip shop!" a spokesperson said

The winner will be announced at the grand final in London on January 21, 2011.

AM pops into Wick to say *'congratulations!'*

ABOVE: The AM is pictured with Christina Dixon of Wick Post Office and Wick resident Conway Hawkins.

WICK Post Office had a visit last week from cabinet minister Jane Hutt AM, who congratulated staff on securing a Post Office diversification fund grant from the Welsh Assembly Government.

"A total of 41 post offices in Wales will benefit from the £725,000 grant announcement by the Minister, Carl Sargeant AM, and Wick Post Office is one of them.

"These grants can be used to provide modern services at local post offices to help boost their business and service to customers," Ms Hutt said.

FIRST MINISTER CARWYN OPENS UP A COUNSELLING SERVICE IN PORTHCAWL

PHOTOGRAPHS by **KEITH E MORGAN**

ABOVE: Carwyn Jones, the First Minister, cutting the ribbon to officially open the Ty Elis counselling offices.

Left: The Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emment-Lewis, Mayor's Consort Bobbie Lewis, Madeleine Moon, MP for Bridgend, and Carwyn Jones AM.

THE Ty Elis counselling offices at 14, Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl, were officially opened on Thursday, September 30, by Carwyn Jones, the First Minister.

Ty Elis, formerly known as Porthcawl Counselling Service, is a registered charitable trust, chaired by Dr David Parry.

It was founded 15 years ago by a local GP and a retired social worker, when they recognised the urgent need for such a service in the area.

Although based in Porthcawl, Ty Elis has always been a community psychotherapy and therapeutic counselling service for the whole of Bridgend County Borough and other areas.

Ty Elis works across a broad spectrum of client needs; clients are of all ages usually over 18 and can come from all backgrounds.

The service is entirely voluntary, but is not amateur and all therapists are qualified to practice and clinically supervised, often engaged in advanced training such as diplomas or masters degree.

Ty Elis is a major and unique educational resource, provides extended practice placements for the South Wales Universities as well as a varied programme of workshops and lectures.

There are currently more than 30 therapists giving several hours each week and receiving four hours' clinical supervision each month.

Ty Elis delivers an essential and expensive mental health therapy at minimal cost to the community which is not available otherwise.

The charity relies entirely on donations and grants as the only source of funding.

Following the opening ceremony and visit to Ty Elis, a luncheon buffet, hosted by and provided courtesy of Lord Kenfig, Lindsay Morgan Esq, had been set up in All Saints Church Hall.

Carwyn Jones, with Ted (Edwina) White, executive director of Ty Elis counselling, and Dr David Parry, chairman of the Ty Elis trustees, admiring the inscribed plaque recording the opening event.

ABOVE: Madeleine Moon MP is pictured chatting to Canon Philip Masson at the opening of the Ty Elis counselling offices.

Carwyn Jones being welcomed to the luncheon buffet at All Saints church by Lord Kenfig, Lindsay Morgan.

Carwyn Jones with Dr David Parry, chairman of the Ty Elis Trustees.

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Community champion Enyd collects volunteer award after 50 years!

ENYD LOCK of Nantymoel has been named Community Safety Volunteer of the Year for Bridgend, by South Wales Police Authority.

Mrs Lock received the award at a special ceremony, which recognised the work of volunteers from across south Wales.

Mrs Lock said: "It is wonderful to have won this award. I didn't know I was being put forward for it, so to have won is amazing. I am very grateful for the recognition."

She has run the Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club for over 50 years without any recognition. She commits five evenings per week to running the community youth club.

She gives the youngsters a place to go to and has developed activities for them including pool, snooker, table tennis and dancing. She is a stalwart to the community and deserves recognition for her hard work and dedication, it was stated.

ABOVE: Enyd Lock, of Nantymoel receives her prestigious Volunteer of the Year award.

Chair of the Police Authority, Coun Russell Roberts, commented: "Enyd Lock is a true community champion. She has been involved in working with young people in Nantymoel for over 50 years, which is incredible.

"Her dedication and commitment to voluntarily keeping the community safe has had a profound effect on the lives of so many people.

"I congratulate and thank her on behalf of the Police Authority."

Other nominees from Bridgend included Vic Gilbert who volunteers within the Maesteg community. He is the County President of Shout, an organisation which represents the elderly.

Andy Morgan, who has been involved with the Rest Bay Lifeguards of Porthcawl for a number of years.

Bridgend People First were also nominated for the Volunteer Team of the year award, for their work providing voluntary support to the learning and development of police officers and staff, nursing profession, social workers and students in local schools and colleges.

In addition, Andy Murphy was nominated for the Volunteer Initiative award, for his work in establishing four mini teams as part of Bridgend Sports RFC, following requests from young people in the area.

The overall winners of the Community Safety Volunteer awards for 2010 were Taslima Ali and Samaya Mohammed from Cardiff, for their work in supporting victims of honour-based violence and forced marriage.

They received the top prize of the night for their outstanding work with victims as part of a Buddy Scheme system, which was set up by South Wales Police.

They "operate as a unique team" providing help and support for victims that are referred to them by the police.

Other winners included Terry Flynn (Cardiff) and Howard Clemo (Vale of Glamorgan).

Police take to the 'high seas' – to help fight coastal crime

ABOVE: PCs Owen Whittendale and Tony Antipass of the Specialist Search and Recovery Team.

NEIGHBOURHOOD police officers and PCSOs in Porthcawl and Pyle are taking to the sea with members of the South Wales Police specialist search and rescue team to combat crime along the coast.

A spokeswomen stated that officers will be patrolling the coast from Newton to Sker, and further afield, in a dedicated boat over the next few weeks to combat antisocial behaviour, suspicious behaviour or possible drug-related activity on the beaches and in the sand dunes of the Kenfig nature reserve.

The team will be supported by a new 4 x 4 vehicle dedicated to the Porthcawl and Pyle area, which will help them access hard-to-reach areas where normal patrol cars cannot go and crack down on scrambler bike nuisance in the dunes, parts of which are sites of special scientific interest.

"We are working in partnership work with the wardens on the Kenfig reserve as well as the coastguard and RNLI," Sgt Mike Davies of the Porthcawl Neighbourhood Policing team explained.

"The patrol boat can launch from the beaches at Newton and Rest Bay and also from Porthcawl Harbour, depending on the tides, to cover a long stretch of coast.

"This is a joint effort to try and crack down on any criminal or antisocial behaviour, particularly on the beach and also in the Kenfig dunes themselves, which cover a large area of rough terrain.

"These are isolated areas but with access to the 4x4, criminals should not think we cannot get to them and keep an eye on what they are up to," he added.

Anyone with information about anti-social behaviour or other suspicious activity along the coast or in Porthcawl and Pyle, is asked to call the Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymous on 0800 555 111.

Scats Farm and Country recruit their local team!

AN enthusiastic new team from the local community has been recruited at the eagerly-anticipated SCATS Farm & Country, set to open its first store in Wales, on the Brackla Industrial Estate in Bridgend this month.

An official ribbon cutting ceremony will be led on Wednesday, October 20, by the Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Bridgend.

Work is running to schedule at the new Farm & Country store located in a prominent position, with easy access from Junction 36 of the M4.

The country lifestyle brand has recruited more than 25 full and part-time staff, including an experienced local store manager, Justin Lewis, to lead the team.

Justin, who will be responsible for the retail operation, has lived in the locally all his life and previously worked for a local timber supplier who will now supply SCATS Farm and Country Bridgend, reinforcing SCATS' commitment to sourcing locally where ever possible.

Justin Lewis, said: "We are well on course for opening.

"The new store is currently being painted in the SCATS green colour and tarmac has been laid for the car park. Most of the interior has been completed, so we'll soon be merchandising the store.

"It's really exciting and we can't wait to welcome customers and show them around their new store."

The large retail shop, located on a 3.2 acre site, will stock everything for the farmer and rural dweller including animal health and husbandry items, a Mole Valley Farmers Farm Service customer desk, pet and equine departments and a Welsh food and drink department.

Jo Lucas, said: "My family manages a local farm in Cowbridge, so I have worked in agriculture from an early age.

"This is an exciting opportunity of which I am proud to be part of in an industry I have always been passionate about.

"There is a real buzz around the community and I can't go anywhere without being asked about the new store!"

A large yard area will stock timber, fencing, gates and fuel tanks with a separate garden area holding outdoor furniture, planters and pots.

The store will offer a separate large animal feed store with a dedicated sales office where customers can make purchases and obtain specialist advice on all feed and yard products.

FEASTIVAL IS A SUCCESS!

THOUSANDS of visitors poured into Bridgend town centre last weekend for the town's alternative food festival, 'Feastival'.

It was hailed as a showcase of high quality Welsh food and drink, which saw a 33 per cent increase in visitors, compared with the equivalent Saturday last year.

A spokeswoman reported that as well as flocking to Feastival's many stalls and attractions, shoppers also helped increase local trade with businesses in the town centre and the indoor market, reporting sales up by 25 per cent.

"Some trade stands were sold out by midday on the Saturday.

"In addition to the many food stalls, celebrity chefs Nerys Howell and Angela Gray led a popular series of cookery demonstrations, while more unusual attractions such as Britain's Got Talent star The Melon Man, was a crowd favourite.

"Other spectacles included a 10-foot high cauliflower sheep, an egg dropping competition and a leek lobbing challenge."

The event was led by a novel version of the famous Olympic torch relay, when three top local athletes – double Olympian Steve Brace, former world triathlon gold medallist Alan Kerr, and marathon veteran Jon Embling – ran, cycled and swam the length of Wales with a giant leek before delivering it to Bridgend for the opening ceremony!

They handed over the leek to the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, Coun Mel Nott, who officially opened the Feastival.

"This was a wonderful event and a credit to all concerned, from the organisers themselves, right through to all those who gave their time and brought their produce.

"I know a great deal of time and effort went into this and even though the weather wasn't kind on the first day, their careful planning ensured there was still plenty for visitors to see and try.

"I'm especially pleased that our permanent local traders have benefited from Feastival and that visitors new and old have been reminded that even when we do not have a special event on, Bridgend town centre still has plenty to offer shoppers.

"I hope this will pave the way for many more quality festivals which complement the excellent local businesses which are here throughout the year," Coun Nott added.

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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS IN YOUR AREA

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:
If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.
I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

Maesteg Gleemen enjoy a triumph in Germany tour!

The choir committee with presentations.

The cast of Mamma Mia with the Maesteg Gleemen male choir.

Maesteg Gleemen on 26th floor of Essen town hall..

German triumph

MAESTEG Gleemen male voice choir have just returned from their successful tour of Essen, Europe's city of culture for 2010.

On their outward journey, they stopped the first night in Bruges, known as the Venice of Belgium.

The concert was held in St Michael's Roman Catholic Church, where they performed with the Essen city choir, whose style of singing was so different to the Maesteg Gleemen. The Gleemen's conductor for the evening was musical director Alun Hodges, with accompanist Suzanne Hodges, and they demonstrated in full the Welsh passion for choral music.

The Gleemen, who have a varied and interesting repertoire in Welsh, English and other languages, sang the 'World in Union' and 'O Isis' from Mozart's *Magic Flute* in conjunction with the Essen city choir.

The choir then sang a series of songs in Welsh and English, and tenor Stewart Bevan gave a powerful version of 'Bring him Home'.

They then showed the choir's versatility with a new duet by tenor – musical director Alun Hodges and his assistant Anthony Bwye – with their version of 'Unwaith Eto'.

The concert received a standing ovation from the appreciative audience.

As part of the tour, the choir (along with the Mayor of Maesteg Phil John) had been invited to meet the Mayor of Essen, Wolfgang Reiniger on the 26th floor of the town hall in Essen.

Following this invitation, they all attended a civic reception, with a sumptuous feast.

At their hotel, the choir were singing in the bar when they were joined by the cast of *Mamma Mia*, who are on a European tour with the show.

The director of the show was so impressed with the choir's vocal renditions he invited the entire tour party of 85, including the coach drivers, to the show in the IFS Dusseldorf Dome.

Each member of the party was given a Euro ticket for the 6,000 seat arena, on the following conditions:

1) They must cheer the cast on their performances;)/ After the show have their photographs taken with the cast; 3) Inform everyone back home what a great show it was!

Suzanne Hodges, the choir's accompanist, with a presentation bouquet of flowers.

Sankey hymns

ON Sunday, October 23 at 6pm in Horeb Baptist Chapel, Nantymoel, there will be a special hymn singing service – using the Sankey hymnal led by Creighton Lewis, a member of Tabor Baptist Church, Llantrisant.

The retired minister, who formed a number of African Missions,will be telling the congregation of the history behind, and the author of, each hymn.

Ira David Sankey was born in Edinburgh, western Pennsylvania, on August 28, 1840, to David and Mary Sankey, pious Methodists.

As a young boy, one of his chief pleasures was to join in the family gatherings around the log fire to sing the good old hymns.

As a delegate to the 1870 International Convention at Indianapolis, he was eager to meet well-known evangelist, Dwight L Moody.

Their work together began in Chicago early in 1871. The great fire of October that year which destroyed the city interrupted their plans, but work was resumed in a temporary tabernacle, where a corner was reserved as crude sleeping quarters.

Their memorable revival ministry in the British Isles began in June 1873, and they sailed into Liverpool with the avowed intention of winning 10,000 souls for Christ.

They worked closely together for more than 30 years.

The chapel is located in Dinam Close, Nantymoel. Everyone is welcome.

Ellis, the choir's oldest member, wearing the Mayor's chains.

Woman was thrown against a wall, crown court told

by AJ SICLUNA

A woman suffering from osteoporosis had her hip broken when her partner flung her against a wall, Cardiff Crown Court has been told.

Robert Harrald (42) called her "a drama queen and a stupid bitch" said prosecutor David Thomas.

Unemployed Harrald, now living in Barry, was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment suspended for two years.

He pleaded guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm on 57-year-old Yvonne Daws of St Athan.

He was also made subject to a supervision order for 18 months, ordered to receive mental health treatment and was put on a 9pm-6am curfew for four months, which involves electronic tagging.

In addition, he was directed to pay Ms Daws £1,000 compensation and made subject to a restraining order which prevents him contacting her.

Judge William Gaskell said: "This was a case of domestic violence and it was not an isolated incident.

"You threw this woman against a wall when you knew she had osteoporosis. Subsequently she had to inject herself to prevent thrombosis."

Mr Thomas said the couple had had a relationship for some years and were living in St Athan.

She found Harrald had mood swings and temper tantrums and was undergoing treatment for his drinking and stress.

On November 7, he attacked her after returning home drunk.

Ms Daws underwent surgery the following day and a screw was inserted into the hip.

The court was told that Harrald claimed to the police that he had acted in self defence and did not realise she had broken her hip.

The couple are no longer together, said Mr Thomas.

Owen Williams, defending, said: "He realises he can only live a proper lifestyle by addressing his alcohol abuse and depression. He accepts the injury was nasty and serious."

School's open evening

STAFF and pupils at Pencoed Comprehensive School look forward to welcoming prospective pupils and their parents to school for the annual open evening on Wednesday, October 20.

Staff and pupils in each department will present displays and brain teasing quizzes.

Guests are divided into two 'tour' groups, starting at either 4pm or 4.30pm.

Contact Karen Andrews on 01656 867101 for full details.

Spooky walk

THE South and West Wales Wildlife Trust trust is holding a family evening at Parc Slip visitor centre on October 28 at 6pm.

It will include a spooky walk through the nature reserve, and it is hoped that family members will wear fancy dress (but course this is optional).

Everyone will be listening out for the noises that go bump in the dark. Please bring torches and wear appropriate clothing and footwear as some paths will be uneven.

After the walk, refreshments will be available in the visitors centre. The cost is £2 per child and booking is essential as places are limited. Call the wicked witch on 01656 724100 to book.

OAP concert

Both the Ogmore Valley Ladies and Men's choirs are performing in a concert at Richard Price Centre, Llangeinor the centre on Wednesday, October 20, to raise funds for the old age pensioners in the area.

New number

Tynyrheol primary school, Llangeinor has changed its telephone number to 01656 815820 (fax 01656 815824).

The school will be holding extra curricular clubs as follows: Monday – playing the guitar (12.30pm-1pm), Tuesday – the environmental club (3.15pm-4.15pm), Wednesday – a problem solving club (3.15pm-4pm), Thursday – music and choral singing (3.15pm-4pm).

Ideas wanted

OGMORE Vale primary is looking for suggestions on helping the school to raise funds, so that it can update its IT equipment.

Also on ways to replenish toys used in the playground which are in constant use. Please contact Mrs Sheppard if anyone has a positive proposal to help the school provide the best facilities for the children.

The 'Gibby Trust' which supports the school has unfortunately had its income curtailed through the current financial climate, and is not able to help.

Mind the children!

TONDU primary school is calling on parents and others who drive children to school to be more considerate, and not to park on the zigzag lines – they are there so that all children crossing the road can be seen!

Also, parents are not permitted to park within the school premises unless they have a disabled child.

Some drivers have been observed trying to leave the school car park when the children are still using the designated walkways.

The school has recommenced its Tondu Toddlers mornings on Thursdays between 9.45am and 11.15am. This is meant to encourage the toddlers to socialise with others, and is also an opportunity for responsible adults to get to know the staff at the school.

Maesteg concert

Maesteg Amateur Operatic Society is holding its annual concert titled Beauty and the Beast at Maesteg town hall between October 12-16. Tickets can be obtained from the town hall booking office.

WI cakes

ON Wednesday, October 20 at 7pm in All Saint's church, Pen-y-Fai in the vicarage, Sue Jones, a member of Pen-y-Fai Women's Institute is holding a coffee and cakes evening. Everyone is welcome.

The funds raised will be used to provide facilities for a school in Fiji; this will help to ensure the children receive a decent education.

The buildings used at present are dilapidated, have non-existent sanitation, reading and writing materials are scarce and when available are of poor quality.

TELLING TALES OF OLD!

Left to right back row: Alec Hawkins, Richard Calas, Phillip Edgar, Richard Johns. Middle row: Anne Elliott, Ennis Matthews, Dawn Lattanzio (Soderholm), Sue Heffernan (Clemett), Janet Hayward (present headteacher), Ann Spencer, Lynne Larkham (Brown), Alison Moya (Stillman). Seated: Mr and Mrs Glenn Morgan.

Island school reunion proves a big success

BARRY Island school rang to the sound of laughter on September 25, as former pupils got together to remember their school days.

Three of those ex-pupils, Alison Moya (Stillman) Ann Elliott and Lynne Larkham (Brown) have been planning the reunion for over a year.

Lynne said: "The present headteacher, Janet Hayward, offered the use of the school for the reunion and it was the perfect choice. We had such fun planning the reunion, though tracing ex-pupils was a challenge as many have moved away from the area."

So did the influence of being back at school have an effect on everyone? "Oh yes!" said Alison. "It was as if time melted away when we saw each other. In no time we were laughing and kidding around, sharing our memories of each other and other ex-pupils who were unable to attend, there was a fair bit of tale telling too!

"My favourite was a story told by Richard Calas. We were sitting at the desks in one of the classrooms remembering how we had inkwells set into the desks. Richard reminded us that Ennis Matthews used to have very long white/blond hair which she wore in a plait.

"Richard told us of a time when he was sitting behind Ennis and taking her plait, dipped it into the inkwell and then watched in horror as the stain spread onto the back of her white blouse and up her hair. Apparently Ennis' mother was not at all impressed!

"What I realise," said Alison, "is how we all, without exception, loved Barry Island school. We share some lovely memories such as Mr Roberts, one of the teachers, buying an ice-cream for every child at the school at the end of each summer term and how, when he retired, we sang "Will ye no come back again" with the words changed to be personalised to Mr Roberts.

"The school has changed so much since we were there – it is so colourful and, of course, hi-tech. No more blackboards. I was speaking with Janet Hayward and she was telling me of her vision of a new Barry Island 'Eco' school looking out to sea on part of the old Butlins site. It would serve as a centre of excellence as a coastal school, and would attract visitors from around the UK and Europe.

"This would leave the possibility of utilising the present school as a site for a museum of Barry Island. What a wonderful legacy that would be to the thousands of pupils who have passed through the school."

The highlight of the day for many of the pupils was the attendance of Mr Glenn Morgan and his wife. Ann Elliott said: "When Mr Morgan agreed to attend our reunion we were overwhelmed. He is now 89 years old and when he walked in to the school hall there were a few damp eyes!

"We remember Mr Morgan with so much fondness, and it really was the icing on the cake to have him join us. It was very emotional day for him too. We are so grateful to him for taking the time to join us."

So the 'class of 67' return to their normal lives struggling to understand how 50 years have passed since they first walked through the school door – and just to prove that 'grown ups' will always remain children at heart, take a look at the left of the group photograph, yes, that is Alec Hawkins making rabbit ears over Anne Elliot's head! **AM**

Elvis fans raise £1,000 for Macmillan charity

MACMILLAN Cancer Support encouraged hundreds of Porthcawl residents to take part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning this year to help it achieve its aim of raising tens of thousands of pounds in the area alone.

Students from Porthcawl Comprehensive joined the crowds at the 2010 Elvis Festival for a bucket collection in the town. The event this year coincided with the charity's World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Debbie Jones, fundraising manager for Macmillan in Bridgend, said: "We are really grateful to Mr Peter Phillips and his team of organisers at the Elvis Festival for allowing us to collect at this event and of course to our army of volunteer collectors from our Bridgend committee and Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

"There was a fantastic atmosphere in the town all day, with lots of spontaneous performances going on along the seafront. A great day was had by all."

Peter Phillips, Elvis festival organiser said: "Once again, the festival has been delighted to support such a great cause. Elvis was very generous with charities and his Welsh fans are following suit."

Debbie added: "We were delighted that hundreds of people in the area signed up to be involved in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning this year. We sincerely thank each and every host and guest at the hundreds of events that were put on in our area.

" Every penny raised makes a difference to the lives of someone affected by cancer and their families, just £24 will pay for one hour of a Macmillan Nurse's time for someone affected by cancer.

"That hour could provide pain relief, give someone answers to questions they have, or just for a chat."

• *To register to host your own coffee morning, for more details on coffee mornings in your area or to find our more about holding your own fundraising event for Macmillan, telephone 01656 867 968.*

STEAM SHOW WAS A SUCCESS

PLAID Cymru regional AM Chris Franks and Vale assembly candidate Dr Ian Johnson recently welcomed the 'Steam and Vintage' show to Barry's Romilly Park.

Dr Johnson said: "If Barry is to stand on its own economically, we must take opportunities like this for events and festivals to generate money for our own business.

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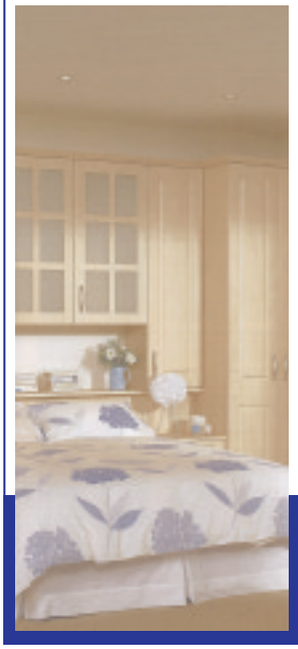

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Stagecoach will be part of 'Cowbridge Fashion Week' taking place this month!

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For students who wish to pursue formal qualifications, this term they can enter exams in either 'Acting' or 'Speaking of Verse and Prose'. Stagecoach has always enjoyed huge success in the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) examinations, which are globally recognised.

To join Stagecoach visit us at: **www.stagecoach.co.uk** or call **01446 781454.**

Wick Horticultural Society's 42nd annual vegetable and flower show 'best for years!'

WICK Horticultural Society's 42nd annual open vegetable and flower show, held recently in Wick & Monknash Village Hall, was the best for many years.

Considering the poor weather we had during August, the standard of entries in all sections was very high and was complimented by the judges.

The imagination of the exhibitors in the flower arrangements was tested with a theme of 'Summer Sunset', but they rose to the occasion with wonderful displays.

The exhibits in the vegetable, fruit and flower classes were excellent and, once again, the local children worked hard and provided some imaginative displays.

The committee would like to thank all those who took part in the show, with a particular thank you to our judges, who had their work cut out to find winners in each section.

RESULTS

TROPHY WINNERS:

Best Exhibitor – Fruit, Tony Munt; Best Exhibitor – Vegetables, Mervyn Lines; Best Exhibitor – Flowers, Tony Munt; Best Exhibitor – Collection of Vegetables, Tony Munt; Best Exhibitor – Floral Arrangement, Louise Edwards; Best Exhibitor – Home Baking, Carol Brown; Best Show Exhibit, Tony Munt; Best Exhibitor – Children's Section, Llewelyn Brown.

Section 1 - Vegetables (own grown):

Five Potatoes - 1, D. Davies; 2, D. Davies; 3 M. Rhodes.

Heaviest Potato - 1, R.Hubbard; 2, D. Davies; 3, L. Thomas.

Three Beetroots - 1, R. Hubbard; 2 J. Williams; 3, R. Hubbard.

Three Carrots - 1, L. Thomas; 2, P. Williams.

-

Three Onions (more than 8oz) - 1, R. Williams; 2, P. Williams.

Three Onions (less than 8oz) - T . Munt; 2, M B Lines; 3, I. Thomas

Heaviest Onion - 1, R. Williams; 2, L Thomas.

-

Three Leeks - 1, R Williams; 2, D. Davies; 3, T. Munt.

Five Shallots (large) - 1, J Gibbon; 2, M B Lines; 3, M.B Lines.

Five Shallots (small) - 1, M B Lines; 2, M.B Lines; 3, D. Davies.

Three Parsnips - 1, D. Davies; 2 D. Davies.

Best Marrow - 1, M.B. Lines; 2, D. Ward-Thompson; 3, P. Williams.

Five Pods of Peas - L Thomas.

6 Runner Beans - 1, R. Williams; 2, J. Gibbon; 3, J. Gibbon.

Longest Runner Bean - 1, L. Thomas; 2, R. Williams; 3, R. Williams.

Single item of any other Vegetable - 1, R Hubbard; 2, P. Evans; 3, T Munt.

Five Tomatoes on Plate - 1, C. Pritchard; 2, R Ayres; 3, J Gibbon.

Truss of Cherry Type Tomatoes - M.B Lines.

Best Cucumber - 1, C. Pritchard; 2, T Munt; 3, R. Norris.

Two Lettuces - D Davies.

Mini Collection of Vegetables - 1, T. Munt; 2, R. Hubbard; 3, R Williams.

Collection of Salad Vegetables - T. Munt.

Fun Entry – Unusual shaped Fruit/Veg - R. Hubbard.

Section 2 – Fruit (Own Garden)

Five Apples – Cooking - 1, T. James; 2, C. Pritchard; 3, L. Thomas.

Dish of Soft Fruit - 1, R Hubbard; 2, L. Thomas; 3, D. Cooke.

Five Apples – Dessert - 1, M.Wallis; 2, C. Pritchard; 3, M.Wallis.

Any Other Fruit - 1, J. Elliott; 2, L Thomas.

-

Section 3 – Flowers (Own Grown)

Bowl of Roses - T. Munt.

Three Gladioli - C. Forty.

Three Dahlias (Dec or Cactus) - 1, C. Pritchard; 2, C. Pritchard.

Three Pom-Pom or Ball Dahlias - 1, C. Pritchard; 2, C. Pritchard; 3, L. Edwards.

Vase of Mixed Flowers - 1, J. Gibb; 2, C. Pritchard; 3, C. Pritchard.

Vase of Sweet Peas - 1, P. Williams; 2, R. Ayres; 3, P. Williams.

Vase of any one Variety - 1, C. Pritchard; 2, L Richards; 3, T Munt.

Vase of 3 Chrysanthemums – incurved - 1, R. Ayres; 2, R. Ayres.

Vase of 3 Chrysanthemums – Spray - R. Ayres.

Pot Plant (Foliage) up to 5in dia pot - D. Stych.

Pot Plant (Foliage) over 5in dia pot - 1, E. Black-Gerrard; 2, R. Ayres; 3, R. Ayres.

Pot Plant (Flowering) up to 5in dia pot - 1, R. Clarke; 2, R Clarke; 3, C. Forty.

Pot Plant (Flowering) over 5in dia pot - 1, T Munt; 2, D Stych; 3, C. Little.

Fuchsia in 8in max dia pot - 1, C Pritchard; 2, C. Pritchard.

Six kinds of Culinary Herbs - 1, L. Edwards; 2, N. Bell; 3, P. Daniels.

Succulents/Cacti - 1, C. Brown; 2, C. Brown; 3, C. Brown.

Section 4 – Flower Arrangements

Floral Frontal Arrangement - 1, L Edwards; 2, L. Evans; 3, J. George.

Table Decoration 10in width max - 1, J. George; 2, L. Evans; 3, L Edwards.

Decorative Buttonhole - 1, M. Wallis; 2, M. Wallis; 3, A. Wallis.

Arrangement of Shades of Green Foliage - 1, L. Richards; 2, L. Evans; 3, D. Stych.

A Rose Head floating in a Glass of Water - 1, C. Brown; 2, T Munt; 3, L. Richards.

Exhibit entitled 'Summer Sunset" - 1, L Edwards; 2, L. Evans; 3, J. George.

Section 5 – Home Baking and Preserves

Carrot Cake - 1, M. Wallis; 2, L. Richards; 3, S. McGinn.

Five Welsh Cakes - 1, R. Williams; 2, R Williams; 3, A. Wallis.

Victoria Sandwich - 1, M. Wallis; 2, C. Brown; 3, L Edwards.

Home made Shortbread - 1, L Edwards; 2, A. Wallis; 3, J. Ball.

Five Plain White Scones - 1, L. Richards; 2, J. Elliott; 3, A. Wallis.

Five Muffins - 1, C. Brown; 2, B. Savidge; 3, M.J. Hawkes.

Apple Tart - 1, M. Wallis; 2, J. Elliott; 3, A. Wallis.

Savoury Flan or Quiche - 1, J. Ball; 2, A. Wallis; 3, B. Savidge.

Jar of Jam - 1, A. Wallis; 2, M.J. Hawkes; 3, J. Gwilliam.

Jar of Jelly - 1, J. Elliott; 2, L. Richards; 3, J. Gwilliam.

Jar of Marmalade - 1, B. Savidge; 2, S. MCGinn; 3, B. Savidge.

Jar of Savoury Preserve - 1, L. Richards; 2, A. Wallis; 3, L. Richards.

Children's Section

Floral decoration in Egg Cup - 1, Morwenna Brown; 2, Anneka Evans; 3, Kiara Evans.

Six Different Leaves (named) - 1, Sam Ball; 2, Anneka Evans; 3, Kiara Evans.

Miniature Garden in Seed Tray - 1, Sam Ball; 2, Morwenna Brown; 3, Ieuan Hawkes.

Animal Made from One or More - 1, Llewelyn Brown; 2, Morwenna Brown; 3, Anneka Evans.

Vegetables – Draw, Name and Colour Three - 1, Sam Ball; 2, Llewelyn Brown; 3, Kiara Evans.

Wild Flowers – Collage Entitled "World Cup" - Garin Evans.

Decorate a Flat Pebble - 1, Kiara Evans; 2, Sam Ball; 3, Morwenna Brown.

Decorate 3 Cup cakes - 1, Rhydan Brown; 2, Aisling Thomas; 3, Morwenna Brown.

CARROLL SWAINE
(Hon treasurer)

Family support centre officially opened by leader

Flying Start, a Welsh Assembly initiative provided locally by the Vale of Glamorgan Council which offers free childcare, support and advice for parents in the Gibbonsdown and Court area of Barry, has opened a new 'family centre' at Gladstone Road.

It was officially declared open by Council Leader, Coun Gordon Kemp.

He said: "Flying Start provides a valuable service for parents and children in the area and this excellent new centre will allow the team to develop on previous good work and provide even more support.

"I'm sure the children will love the fun new environment and that parents will find the new facilities of great benefit."

Antonia Bridges, Flying Start project manager, said: "This is very much a part of the Vale's poverty strategy, as research shows us that focus on early years is the most effective chance of long term success in transforming the life chances of children.

"We will also have basic skills and life coaching at the centre to encourage and develop parents to get back into employment, as this is the most sustainable route out of poverty."

TELL US YOUR NEWS!

● *WE welcome your view,s and other items. Please email them to ggem@internet-today.co.uk or by post to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL*

THE END OF AN ERA FOR PORTHCAWL'S 'SHEEP' ARTIST JOHN

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

A SAD time for some, but happy for others because this is an end of an era. Local artist John Mason, who is at present showing his paintings at the Silures Art Gallery, South Road, Porthcawl, has finally finished painting sheep!

His exhibition which can be viewed at the Silures Gallery every weekend in October between 11am and 4.30 pm, is entitled *Ben, Dogs, Last Sheep and Chickens.*

Original illustrations from John's recently published book *Ben's Kingdom*, are also on sale as are his dog pictures. The latter paintings describe the adventures of his three real life dobermans.

This is an exhibition which is aimed at bringing a smile to visitors' faces and should not be missed.

ABOVE: John Mason with his father David, deciding on the best presentation for his paintings.

ABOVE:
This painting is entitled 'Celebration' in acknowledgement of the completion of John's 'sheep' painting period.

LEFT, BELOW LEFT and BELOW RIGHT: Sheep dress for Winter, Spring and Autumn.

AUDREY II WILL STRIKE FEAR INTO ST RICHARD GWYN SCHOOL

THE Little Shop of Horrors wends its way to St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School where the show is being performed with the help of a vicious, giant carnivorous plant called 'Audrey II'.

Audrey II persuades Seymour (Tomos Power, year-11) to feed it blood, including that of Mr Mushnik the flower shop owner (Patrick Jones, year-10), with the promise that Audrey II will bring him business, luxuries and everything he's ever wanted, including the love of his co-worker Audrey (Tizzie McGivern, year-11).

Audrey II will be performing with a whole school cast on October 20, 21, 22. Tickets are £6 for adults and £4 for children which are available from the school reception. Contact the school on 01446 729250, or email strichardgwyncs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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In Business Update

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Expect innovative and practical solutions as well as friendly support to help you define your business and work/life balance goals.

You will leave this event with a unique insight into what gives you and your business the 'X' factor!

It takes place on Wednesday, October 20 at the Copthorne Hotel, Culverhouse Cross. Guest membership for the evening is just £10. *Please contact us to book via email at members@vwbn.org.uk for more information on the benefits of networking and joining the VWBN contact members@vwbn.org.uk*

Vale Women's Business Network

Inspiration and Success for your Business

Wednesday 20th October 2010

at The Copthorne Hotel, Culverhouse Cross
6.30 - 9.00pm

Guests and non-members are most welcome!
(Guest membership for this event is £10) Members £5
Please e-mail members@vwbn.org.uk to book

www.vwbn.org.uk

This VWBN Event has been kindly sponsored by Christine Atkinson of Praxis Training & Consultancy
Tel: 01446 771539 email: praxistraining@hotmail.com

Launch of new family company - Oil 4 Wales

OIL 4 WALES, a family-run oil distribution company was launched on 1st September 2010 by Colin Owens, former founder of Owen Fuels.

Colin has returned to the oil industry after a year off, having previously resigned from Owen Fuels.

Oil 4 Wales supplies fuel and provides services for domestic households, agricultural holdings and commercial entities and has enjoyed a busy first month of trading.

They also offer a comprehensive boiler service.

The company prides itself on the level of service offered to its customers via its depots at Milford Haven, Carmarthen and Cardiff, and it is hoped by Colin and his family that the business will grow with the valued support of its customers.

Pictured above from left to right: Mr Andrew Lacey, Oil 4 Wales' engineering manager; Mr Shane Williams IRB world rugby player of the year, Mrs Janette Jones, the winning customer of Oil 4 Wales and Colin from Oil 4 Wales. Mrs Jones from Clydach, Swansea was the first customer of Oil 4 Wales to receive a boiler service, and a presentation of flowers was made by Shane Williams.

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She will be practising from Therapy Works, 9a Poundfield, Llantwit Major, on Wednesdays and Fridays; appointments are available between 1pm-7pm.

Mobile appointments available on Monday, Tuesday between 1pm-7pm and Saturday mornings 9am-12pm.

Opening offers, available only at Therapy Works. Basic nail cutting for OAPs until December 1, £9.

Full treatment to include soothing foot bath, nail cutting, removal of corns and callous, relaxing lower leg message, £22 until December 1.

Contact Clare on 07947 406404 or email : clareingram@mypostoffice.co.uk.

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"We're different because we're offering students the specialised professional training you'd expect from a dance school or a theatre school, all in one academy," says principal Vicky Russell.

The appointment of award-winning Only Men Aloud star Paul Rothwell as musical director and vocal coach has everyone excited.

"It's an incredible opportunity for students, who will learn so much from Paul, both technically and performance-wise," says Vicky, who, with Paul, is already proving to be a great, dynamic and talented team.

Contact www.performingartsacademywales.co.uk or telephone 029 2053 0913.

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ESTYN'S 'OUTSTANDING' MARKS FOR LALESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

All smiles as pupils and teachers celebrate the school's success

SCHOOL inspectors awarded Trelales Primary School in Laleston the highest grades possible in all of the key questions that form Estyn's school inspection framework and described the school as "outstanding".

A spokesperson reports: **"The judgements made relate to the standards of pupil achievement, the quality of teaching, the care, guidance and support of pupils, the school's work within and with the community and the effectiveness of leadership and management."**

In their summary, the inspectors stated: ***'The headteacher, staff and governors of Trelales Primary School work extremely hard to provide a wide range of exciting and rich experiences and opportunities that are extremely successful in meeting the needs and interests of all pupils.***

'The very experienced headteacher's outstanding leadership and management skills are pivotal to the school's successful outcomes, which include: consistently high standards of pupils' achievements and behaviour, high quality care, support and guidance and excellent value for money.'

The report also noted: ***'The school's standards are consistently above both local and national averages and the school has made excellent progress from the already very good provision detailed in the previous inspection.'***

The pupils' behaviour was described as "exemplary" and the quality of teaching judged to be 100 per cent good or better, with 30 per cent of the lessons observed described as outstanding.

Mr Clive Evans, the headteacher, said he was delighted with the report and that it reflected the hard work of the pupils and staff and the support of the governors, parents and community.

Mopping up after the floods

HEAVY rain over last weekend resulted in a number of flooding incidents throughout Bridgend county borough.

On Friday, more than 25 council staff were called out to help residents by supplying sandbags and clearing blockages in streams and water courses.

Work continued over the weekend, with staff carrying out cleaning operations and other emergency work.

Rivers and streams burst their banks at the rear of Caerau Road, Caerau; Beach Road, Pyle; Magazine Street, Nantyffyllon and Marlas Lane, North Cornelly.

There was also flooding at Woodland Park, Kenfig Hill and Pant Rhosla, Cefn Cribwr.

A landslip at the side of the main road in Pontyrhyl has resulted in single lane traffic travelling along it until the bank can be assessed.

Sand bags were also taken to a house at Maesteg Road, Cwmfelin, where water was running off the hillside behind into the garden and threatening to flood the house.

Fire fighters in the borough were also called out to assist and were involved in helping householders in Maesteg, Bridgend, Cefn Cribwr and Pyle. They also rescued a person from their vehicle in North Cornelly.

Local church wins an Assembly grant

ST Cannas Church has been awarded £142,000 as one of 23 community projects in Wales that share £4.2 million funding under the Welsh Assembly Government's community facilities and activities programme (CFAP).

The cash will be used to repair the disused schoolroom, install new floors and ceilings, new electrics and a heating system. This will bring a derelict building into community use.

Social Justice and Local Government Minister, Carl Sargeant said: "The community facilities and activities programme continues to make a real, tangible difference to community and voluntary groups across Wales.

"CFAP funding has a beneficial impact upon the day to day lives of local people. The programme enables community and voluntary organisations to provide facilities and services that give local people the chance to get together and try new activities."

ART SHOW

RHOOSE art group are holding their annual exhibition and sale of paintings this Saturday, October 9 between 11am and 5pm at the community hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose.

The small group meet every Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at St Peter's church, Rhoose.

LOCAL RESIDENTS HONOURED WITH V2C COMMUNITY AWARDS

VALLEYS To Coast (V2C) held its annual gala award evening on Friday, which recognised efforts put in by local people, young and old, to help benefit their communities.

These included The Green Champion Award for environmental projects and the Youth in Action Award (for placing others before themselves).

The event, held in the Bridgend Recreation Centre, was organised by V2C staff and was rounded off with presentations to the winners of its gardening competition.

In raising the profile of the young people of the borough, guests were treated to a medley of musical talents from pupils of local comprehensive schools: Brynteg, Bryntirion, Cynffig and Ysgol Llanharri, plus a performance by Bridgend's young singer of the year, Megan Griffiths.

Sarah Liney from V2C, who played a major role in organising the event, said: "All the guests invited were in some way involved in making a difference to their communities and it was a privilege to organise an event that recognised their hard work.

"We are also grateful for the support from local schools in helping us to showcase the talent of their students."

Awards presented were as follows:

The Green Champion Award – Llynfi Valley Environmental and River Care Group.

The Youth in Action Award – PJ Morgan Thomas – South View, Pencoed.

The Apprentice of the Year Award – Eleri Evans.

Small Garden Winner – Mrs Walters, Erw Wen, Pencoed. Large Garden Winner – Mr Flay, Tudor Estate, Caerau.

Container Garden Winner – Mrs J Logan, Maes Y Felin, Wildmill.

Garden without Lawn Winner – Mr Evans, Lewis Road, Maesteg.

Community Garden Winner – Treharne Row, Maesteg.

Youth Community Garden Winner – Bad Bikes Group.

Hanging Basket Winner – Mr & Mrs Chilcott, Waun Newydd, Heol Y Cyw.

Family Garden Winner – Mrs V Richards, Beach Road, Pyle.

Garden of the Year – Mr D Jones, Terfryn Ynysawdre, Ynsyawdre.

Libraries are set for closure

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The council opened a reference section called Y Llynfi at Maesteg Sports Centre this year despite huge opposition from town residents who feared it would lead to the eventual closure of the town centre library.

The report would seem to confirm their fears as it states that it makes sense to have library services on one site and that to close the new library would incur clawback of £100,000 of the funding the council obtained to create it.

All the council's proposals, which were first mooted in March, have been out to public consultation.

The cabinet heard that the outcome of the consultation gave them a clear mandate to proceed with implementation of the recommendations.

Mr Shephard also warned that since the review was undertaken in March, the council's revenue budget has worsened and extra savings are now required over the next three years.

The proposals in the review may have to be changed to take account of the additional savings required.

He also pointed out that it was unlikely that capital would be available to improve library buildings within the borough before 2017.

There are plans to replace Porthcawl Library with a much larger one, probably located within the Porthcawl Regeneration Area. But this is also subject to money being available.

Improvements are also needed at Pontycymer Library while the future of Aberkenfig and Sarn Libraries will be reviewed, although both are very successful.

They may be replaced with a single library on the site of the new school at Ynysawdre.

The plans will need capital of more than £10m and that money will be sought over the 10 years.

But the council would seek to create new Life Centres like Pyle in future, with libraries integrated into a community hub with leisure and other facilities.

JAYNE ISAAC

To the woods!

THE Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl will stage a special performance of *Walden*, on October 12 at 8pm, set in a specially-constructed wooden area to bring the account of Henry David Thoreau's 'experiment in simple living' to life.

Walden tells the story of Thoreau, a 27-year-old Harvard graduate, failed teacher and student of eastern philosophy, who, on July 4, 1854, walked into the woods near his hometown of Concord, Massachusetts and decided to stay.

For 26 months, he lived alone in a hut he built on the shores of Walden Pond and attempted to survive entirely by his own resources.

Custody visitors are praised by police for long service...

ABOVE: Some of those who were recognised for their long service.

THREE local custody visitor volunteers were among 11 honoured by South Wales Police for long service to the scheme.

They were Marilyn Lloyd of Brackla, Bridgend (14 years' service); George Clatworthy of Kenfig Hill (13 years) and Graham Ellis, Barry (19 years).

Each of the 11 received a special certificate to mark their achievement from the chief executive of the authority, Alan Fry, and assistant Chief Constable Julian Kirby.

A police spokeswoman explained that independent custody visiting sees volunteer members of the public visit police custody units to check on the welfare of detainees and the conditions of the suite.

Alan Fry said: "Our independent custody visitors are a dedicated group of people who ensure that the rights of people detained by the police are being met.

"Custody units are not the most pleasant places to visit, so the dedication of this group of volunteers to carry out their role for more than 12 years is outstanding."

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HOWELL'S SCHOOL WELCOMES AUTHORS

TWO award-winning authors were welcomed to Howell's School to celebrate Book Week.

This year, the school also welcomed visitors from the Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School and Whitchurch High School to enjoy the talks.

Anne Fine OBE opened the Book Week celebrations with a talk on Monday, October 4.

Awarded Children's Laureate from 2001 to 2003 and twice winner of the Carnegie Medal, Britain's most coveted children's literature award, her books have been adapted for film and television.

In 1993, her novel, Madame Doubtfire, was adapted into the hit film Mrs Doubtfire starring Robin Williams.

On October 5, award-winning author Sophie McKenzie gave a talk on her books, which include the best selling Medusa Project series.

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Musical treat for Dinas Powys

AN evening with the John S Davies Singers will provide a special treat for music lovers at 7pm on Saturday, October 16, in St Peter's Church, Dinas Powys.

Conductor, John S Davies is an honorary fellow of the Royal Welsh College of Music where, as a former student, he formed his first choir.

In 1970, he founded and directed the Fishguard International Music Festival until 2006.

The Singers are currently celebrating their 30th anniversary with performances at St David's Cathedral and at three festivals in Wales, accompanied by the Westward Chamber Orchestra.

The concert will include works by John Rutter, Brahms, William Mathias, Stanford and John Tavener. The soloist/accompanist will be Christopher Williams, accompanist at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

Tickets £10, available in the Village PO and the Community Council Office. For more information, contact Margaret James on 02920 513843.

John S Davies.

The Changing Scene Dance Company conquers St David's Hall!

Changing Scene at St David's Hall.

CHANGING Scene Dance Company, a local Barry dancing school, were asked by Stan Stennett to take part in his recent matinee spectacular show at St David's Hall, Cardiff.

The members performed alongside many well known professional artists including Johnny Tudor, Colin Price, Maria Lynn, Bill Bennett and Stan Stennett himself, who produced and directed the show.

Changing Scene Dance Company began with *Another Opening, Another Show,* and melodies later in the show included *Me and My Baby* and a spectacular tribute to the musical *Cats.*

Emma Lee Wagner, who choreographed Changing Scene Dance Company, also gave a tribute to the lyrics of Dorothy Squires.

Comments and tributes praising the dancing school following the show included "incredible costumes", "outstanding and professional behaviour", and "best dancing school to have appeared at St David's Hall!".

Stan Stennett said that he was "extremely pleased" with their outstanding performance and added: "They did us proud".

Emma Lee Wagner is to appear in Stan Stennett's panto, *Billy and Bonzo Meet Red Riding Hood,* at the Paget Rooms, Penarth in January 2011.

Changing Scene Dance Company are busy with rehearsals for their forthcoming pantomime, *Peter Pan,* which takes place at Barry Arts Centre from Wednesday, November 17 to Saturday, November 20. Further details on 02920 633217.

GAY FIFIELD

'Pigsy and Pops' step out for lifeboat funds

PAUL 'Pigsy' Brooks and his pet dog 'Pops', together with other Lifeboat supporters, recently walked from Porthcawl Lifeboat Station to Barry Dock Lifeboat Station to raise funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, in particular the Barry Dock Lifeboat and its fundraising team.

Many friends and supporters accompanied 'Pigsy' and this culminated with a further fundraising effort in the way of a barbecue at the Barry Yacht Club.

'Pigsy' was able to raise more than £2,000 and this included a cheque for £600 from the RAOB (Shamal Lodge No9948) in Saudi Arabia.

The chairman of the Barry Dock Lifeboat management committee, Stuart Macmillan, said that this was "an incredible result" and thanked all involved, especially Paul Brooks for his organising skills, communication and commitment.

GERRY ADAMS
(Barry Dock Lifeboat)

Welsh pride of David

BARRY'S Olympic swimmer, David Davies, described being chosen this week to carry the Welsh flag at the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in India as "a massive honour".

David (25) is taking part in his third Commonwealth Games and is due to compete in both the 1,500 metres freestyle and the 400 metres freestyle.

Cancer shop staff mark a £1m charity fundraising milestone

STAFF at the Cancer Research UK shop in Caroline Street, Bridgend are celebrating raising £1million for the charity since the opening.

Volunteers had a big 'thank you' lunch at the Brewery Fields, Bridgend, and those who had achieved milestones for their time and dedication were also presented with their badges.

Shop Manager Caroline Keech said: "We're thrilled to announce that we have raised this huge sum of money towards the charity's life-saving work.

"This would not have been possible without the support of the local community – our customers and those who donate our stock. Of course, the stars of the show are the team of volunteers who have worked so hard to make the shop a success. We simply couldn't have achieved this without them."

The Bridgend shop, which always has a good selection of quality goods for sale, has become a popular feature in the area. However, rather than resting on their laurels, the staff and volunteer team are now working towards their next milestone.

To reach this, they need all the help they can get from the community in the form of good quality donations.

Caroline added: "We're appealing for people to help us to take our fundraising to the next level by having a good sort out and bringing their unwanted items to the shop. Every donation counts towards our aim of beating cancer."

FACT: The GEM reaches more homes and readers than any other publication in the Vale.

ALL SAINTS PUPILS LEARN LESSON THAT FOOD CAN BE FUN (AND HEALTHY, TOO!)

THE reception and year-6 pupils at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School chose an exciting way to promote healthy eating during 'British Food Fortnight'.

The year-6 pupils were inspired by Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* to write their own versions of the adventures with a modern day twist, which they 'published' using computer technology.

The reception pupils prepared a feast of tasty, healthy snacks and baked wholemeal jam tarts. Then the children's adventure continued last Friday afternoon when the two classes came together for a Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

Everyone dressed as a character from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and the year-6 pupils read their stories to groups of reception pupils.

Afterwards, they all enjoyed eating the healthy food during their tea party.

Their teachers, Mrs Sue Thomas and Mrs Linda Forrester, proclaimed the adventure a "huge success" and the children certainly agreed that healthy food is fun to prepare and great to share. NM

ABOVE: Wonderland costumes.

LEFT and ABOVE: Pupils savour the delights of their healthy snacks - and get a story read to them to boot!

TOP MARKS FOR RHWS FROM AM!

Jane Hutt AM with Miss Toshack, Mrs Lynn and pupils.

WHEN Vale Assembly Member and Finance Minister, Jane Hutt, paid a visit to Rhws Primary School, she congratulated pupils and staff on an excellent inspection report.

"This is an outstanding school, which serves the local community with distinction. It is always a great pleasure to visit Rhws.

"I know I will find dynamic and exemplary teaching and learning, giving all its pupils a great start in life," Ms Hutt commented.

Cowbridge Fashion Week

CELEBRATING VINTAGE GLAMOUR

ty hafan

THURSDAY 21st to SATURDAY 23rd OCTOBER

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'Vintage Glamour' is Cowbridge Fashion week's theme for 2010

by JAYNE ISAAC

ONE of the highlights of the Cowbridge calendar takes place this month.

Fashion Week, October 21 to 23, is now firmly established as a major draw to the town attracting shoppers from a wide area.

It also gives the town's many fashion and accessory shops, a brilliant showcase to display their wares via a series of events and fashion shows.

Organisers Awen Evans of High Society and Esther Hitchcock of Jon Ian point to the fact that Cowbridge has more privately owned shops in a relatively compact area than Cardiff.

This means that someone needing a special outfit knows that there will be plenty of choice and is attracted to the town.

"We have shops catering for all age groups from the young to the more mature and also to suit every pocket," said Awen.

"Yes, there are shops selling designer labels but there are also shops selling smart clothes which are affordable for most people."

Esther said that Cowbridge was unique in organising this event which sees so many businesses working together.

She said: "It's tough out there and we are all keen to promote the town as this will benefit everyone."

Apart from the fashion shops, Fashion Week also sees other traders and bars and restaurants getting involved because there is spin-off business for them all as large numbers of shoppers head for the town.

The event has only been going for four years but has grown each year with new elements added.

This year, a new event is the Vintage Tea Party taking place at 3pm on Thursday October 21 at the Bear Hotel.

The theme of Fashion Week is 'Vintage Glamour' and many of the shops will be picking up that theme with their take on 'the fifties look' which is so popular at the moment.

The tea party includes champagne as well as traditional afternoon tea and there are still some tickets available at £19.50p each. A pianist will provide entertainment and models will circulate between the tables for people to get a close up look at the fashions on show.

All the shops taking part will be supplying the clothes for the fashion shows during the week and the models are a mix of professionals and volunteers provided by the shops.

The tea party will be the launch event of Fashion Week, and this will be followed at 6pm by a parade along the main street. Stilt walkers and models will strut their stuff – going from shop to shop. Mini fashion shows will take place on the pavements, depending on the weather, and each shop will have its own strip of red carpet to bring some extra glamour.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)

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Cowbridge Fashion Week

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THURSDAY 21st to SATURDAY 23rd OCTOBER

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LOVE FASHION, LOVE COWBRIDGE

Saturday fashion schedule for Cowbridge Town Hall

A series of fashion shows takes place on Saturday October 23 at Cowbridge Town Hall.

The shows are being put on by individual shops and tickets are available from them.

The time-table is as follows:

11am: Bridal show by High Society. Hair by Hair Business.

12pm: Fashions by Pebble and children's fashions by Scallywags. Children's shoes by Liquorice and Laces. Hair by Fich and Ramous.

1pm: Fashions by Woodcocks, L'Armoire, Ushi's and Jon Ian – ladies and men's.

2pm: Fashions by Eye Candy.

3pm: Fashions by Happy Days Vintage Collection. Hair by Marooned.

Robert Lloyd Opticians is supplying all the sunglasses to be worn by models at the fashion shows.

Cowbridge Fashion Week is kindly sponsored be WM

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

The shops will stay open into the evening and a champagne trail will be created with shoppers moving from shop to shop enjoying a glass or two of bubbly and refreshments. They will also have a chance to buy the clothes on display.

A number of the shops are laying on entertainment with some booking singers or musicians.

"We aim to show people that Cowbridge is the Bond Street of Wales," added Awen.

"Our Vintage Glamour theme should evoke memories of Hollywood's golden years. I believe that some shops will have vintage clothes on display but mostly, we will be trying to recreate the look and feel of that era."

The town's hairdressers and beauty salons also play a big part in getting the models ready for the fashion shows, demonstrating their own skills in the process.

Esther said: "It's wonderful to see everyone joining in and working so hard. This is truly a joint effort and we have the full backing of the chamber of trade."

On Friday, the main event is a fashion lunch at the Bear Hotel which is already sold out. Organisers say that they could have sold these tickets several times over, such is the demand.

The lunch will include a fashion show with models circulating around the room.

On Saturday, a series of catwalk shows will be held upstairs in the Town Hall. Here, shops have been allocated slots to display their clothes and accessories. Each shop has tickets to distribute to its customers but non-ticket holders will be admitted provided there is room. The catwalk sessions are taking place from 11am to 4pm.

The hall will be decorated and there will be proper staging and lighting to give a very professional feel.

The final event is the black tie gala dinner on Saturday night, also taking place at The Bear, which is the major fund raiser of the week. Some tickets, priced at £50 are still available.

Fashion Week is self-funding and all the proceeds, after costs have been met, are donated to Ty Hafan.

The event also has close ties with Cowbridge Comprehensive School and many of the pupils help with the arrangements.

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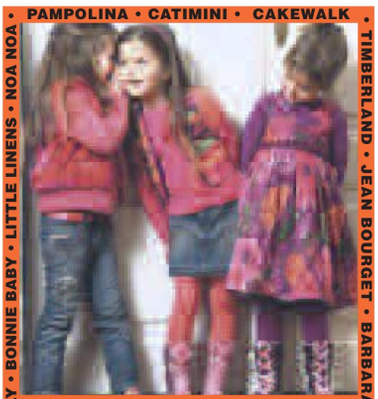

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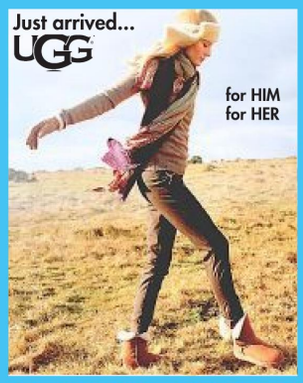

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'A more nerve-jangling film would be hard to find'

Reynolds stars as thriller leaves viewer 'Buried' in tension and suspense

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

RYAN REYNOLDS has made steady progress up the Hollywood ladder since first hitting the big screen with *Van Wilder*.

The actor has dipped his toes in a number of genres with a variety of success; however, his role alongside Sandra Bullock in the box-office-consuming *The Proposal* last year may have been the tipping point for the actor. Next year, with his *X-Men* spin-off *Deadpool* in the development stages, Reynolds will become DC superhero *Green Lantern* in the film of the same name, but before he goes big-time, the actor puts his serious acting skills to the test in *Buried*.

Reynolds plays Paul Conroy, an Iraq-based US contractor who comes to in a coffin, discovering he has been buried alive. With only a mobile phone, lighter and diminishing air levels, can Conroy work out why he is in this situation and find his way out before it is too late...

Using a single character or single location as the main thrust of a film is something that can be used as a hugely effective storytelling device – look at *Castaway*, which spends two-thirds of its running time with Tom Hanks and a volleyball, or (and perhaps closer in kin to *Buried*) Alfred Hitchcock's *Lifeboat*, a whodunnit set within the limiting confines of the titular location.

In these cases, it takes great skill to create drama and, in the case of the latter, suspense, from such restrictive foundations.

This is obviously something that Rodrigo Cortes, director of *Buried*, thinks is worth a challenge, and it certainly pays off – *Buried* is a masterpiece in slow-burning tension and drama, managing to keep you enthralled from the start to the finish of what is, in essence, a man trapped in a box.

Despite the limiting set-up, Cortes brings a strong visual energy to the film, using basic techniques that work incredibly well. Most directors given this set-up would probably struggle to shoot a ten-minute film, but given Cortes has 95 minutes to work with, it is a remarkable feat by the Spanish director that he keeps the film so visually engaging.

Close-ups are the order of the day, as you would imagine, but by using only the light from the mobile phone or lighter, it creates a wonderful tension that sustains throughout.

Darkness is punctured by the click of a zippo or a telephone call, sudden moments that don't create jumps and scares but rather simply amp up the reality of the situation, and Cortes' camera is unflinching in its viscerality.

There is also a superb degree of scope, the camera moving in and around the box yet never attempting to be too adventurous and break the sense of space it painstakingly sets up – aside from one clever zoom out that is more to do with the scope of the situation Paul has found himself in than anything else, Cortes keeps you in the box at all times.

It is with films like this that elements that usually go unmentioned come to the forefront, and the work of the sound department here is one of those. For such a sparse production, the sound is the crucial component here, helping to convey the story when all on screen is darkness, and the creaking of the box, the clicking of the lighter and phone ringing are important elements of the overall work.

Of course, Cortes and the sound department's finest efforts would be for nothing if the actor in the box wasn't up to the task, but thankfully, in Ryan Reynolds, the right man was found for the job.

While he (presently) may be better known for his wit and charisma than any serious acting, Reynolds is absolutely mesmerising here. It takes a special kind of actor to be able to hold the screen for the length of a film, and Reynolds is more than able.

Conroy is put through the mill for whole film, and Reynolds conveys the panic, determination, sadness and anger that the character goes through with a superb performance.

The occasional hint of dark humour aside, this is Reynolds' most accomplished turn yet, and, while there is no accounting for taste-makers, deserves to be rewarded come awards season.

The script, by Chris Sparling, is equally as strong, cleverly taking a thriller and layering it with suspense and drama, the stakes raising as every minute passes. It also makes a detour into the nature of foreign policy and petty bureaucracy, those who Paul would rely on being a mob of suits whose goals are less his rescue and more covering their own backs, a timely reminder both of the dangers of Iraq and those who are out there.

The overriding skill of *Buried* is how such a simple set-up can be unwound into such a taut and thoroughly engaging film. This is a thriller in the most minimalist sense possible, and highlights how a sharp script, clever direction and a strong lead turn can make for a nerve shredding and nail-biting experience.

Quite whether this will start a new trend in cinema remains to be seen, as does how much more low-key a scenario you can actually conjure up, but any latecomers will be hard-pressed to deliver as economical, and nerve-jangling, a piece of cinema as *Buried*.

VERDICT: Astounding, breathtaking and utterly compelling – you could fill a review full of superlatives to describe just how good *Buried* is.

With its taut tension and masterful suspense keeping you hooked, it is the skilled direction of Rodrigo Cortes and Ryan Reynold's excellent performance that really pushes *Buried* towards greatness – a more nerve-jangling 95 minutes you would be pushed to find!

Essential viewing.

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS NEWS

Walkers enjoy their trip to Bigsweir...

The walkers take a breather in the middle of their walk around Bigsweir.

SIX walkers joined Joy, Bracken and Nick on an overcast morning for the trip up to Bigsweir which straddles the border between Monmouth and Gloucestershire, where the cast iron bridge, built in 1827 at Merthyr Tydfil, was part of the new turnpike road.

This was constructed between Chepstow and Monmouth to connect the Welsh and English sides of the border and the abandoned and ruined tollhouse sits on the Welsh side.

Upon their arrival at Slip Wood, the wind was a little cool but as they began their journey along Offa's Dyke Path through beautiful old woodland at Wyeseal Wood, they soon warmed up.

King Offa was the Saxon King of Mercia who called himself King of all England – and the first to mint a national coin, the gold Dinar. But he is best known for the construction of the long distance earthwork in 785AD that roughly follows the Welsh/English border, constructed to keep out the marauding Welsh with an eight metre high ditch on the Welsh side!

Emerging from the woods, open fields led them to the Coxbury and Wyegate Lane and crossing this they followed pretty paths with high fences through Highbury Wood, which is a national nature reserve.

The group stopped in a meadow overlooking the old railway bridge across the Wye for morning coffee before descending to Redbrook.

Redbrook, which changed its name from Brocote, has a great industrial past as it was an important copper smelting area and a furnace there used coke for smelting iron ore, from the Forest of Dean, as early as 1716 – one of the first in the world to do so.

Climbing steeply by road and track, the group entered the aptly named Forge Wood ascending to join a road that led them up Savage Hill to the village of Newland that dates back to the time of Edward I. The massive 13th century All Saints Church dominates the centre of the village and is called the 'Cathedral of the Forest'.

Descending through fields to a lane they passed tasteful renovated stone farm outbuildings near Wyegate Hill before following an old bridleway down to Quicken Tree Wood, where narrow woodland paths covered with fallen leaves led them back to their start point.

JOY STRANGWARD

Local store helps charity

THE Place For Homes family-run furniture store in the Vale teamed up with Tempur, producers of world-renowned Tempur pressure relieving mattresses, for Breast Cancer Awareness week.

Rhian Francis, company secretary at The Place for Homes, told The GEM that following her mum's recent battle against breast cancer, she decided to run the Cardiff half marathon in order to raise awareness and funds.

Following a request for sponsorship from the suppliers of The Place For Homes, Tempur stepped up to the challenge by supplying a 4ft 6inch Tempur mattress (RRP £1,665) to be auctioned to raise money for the cause.

"We have decided to hold an auction in the form of sealed bids, asking interested parties to send a sealed envelope with their bid to The Place for Homes, Unit 1, Retail Area, Sutton Rd, Llandow CF71 7PA, with the winner to be revealed in store on Thursday, October 14," said Rhian.

Anybody wishing to sponsor Rhian should either contact The Place For Homes Ltd on 01446 772927 or visit: www.justgiving.com/rhianfrancis

Dad Dennis and daughter Jo out to boost dementia care

A LOCAL dad and his daughter will be taking part in events to raise funds for the Crossroads Care dementia charity – to raise awareness of dementia and its impact on those who suffer from the disease, and their carers.

Dennis Dutch from Dinas Powys is hosting a Musical Extravaganza on Thursday, October 21, between 6.30pm and 8.30pm at Dinas Powys Methodist Church.

Entertainment will be provided by the Dinas Powys Ecumenical Seven.

There will be a grand raffle, information and trade stalls and refreshments. Tickets cost just £3 (£2.50 concessions), with all funds going to Crossroads Care in the Vale (EMI) Ltd.

"I am holding this event in support of my daughter Jo Hendry and her fundraising for Crossroads Care," explained Dennis.

"Crossroads provides invaluable support for people with dementia. It will be an entertaining evening and I am hoping that people will support us generously.

"Many sponsors have already been extremely generous in donating some top class prizes for the raffle."

Dennis's daughter, Jo Hendry, a counsellor with Crossroads Care in the Vale, will be taking part in the Snowdonia Marathon on Saturday, October 30.

The race is a gruelling 26.2 mile course around the base of Snowdon. By completing the marathon, Jo hopes to raise further funds to help the carers and clients of the charity.

She is no stranger to such endeavours, having completed a marathon across the Vale in 2007, and a 230-mile cycle ride from north to south Wales last year.

Jo said: "This challenge will be the toughest one I have faced so far. The marathon course is mountainous, with some off-road sections.

"The weather in Snowdonia is often unpredictable and there will be much less support along the route than in other more popular marathons."

Crossroads Care is a Penarth-based charity that provides assistance to older people with dementia and depression throughout the Vale. It also gives much-needed emotional support to the family carers of those with memory problems.

To buy tickets and/or raffle tickets for the Musical Extravaganza, telephone Jo Hendry at the Crossroads Care offices on (029) 2070 0057 (option 3) or Amanda Rosoman on (029) 2022 7586.

To sponsor Jo for the Snowdonia Marathon, telephone the Crossroads Care offices or donate online at www.justgiving.com/johendry.

For more information, visit website www.fundraisingevent.co.uk

All Pump's date at Carmarthen Dairy show...

IT'S all go at 'All Pump Services' as Eleri Lloyd and Haydn prepare for a busy few days ahead.

They are off to the Welsh Dairy Show being held in Carmarthen from Tuesday, October 19.

Why not go along and enjoy the day? The action all takes place in the United Counties showground, Carmarthen.

To find out more about All Pumps' services and products, you will find them on stand No 27.

They provide the solar for farm dairies, plus a range of domestic services.

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN THE AREA

Art society workshops

COWBRIDGE Art Society meets on Saturday, October 9 from 10am to 4pm in Llanblethian Church Hall, Bridge Road, Llanblethian, for a miniature workshop led by Pat Webb.

There are one or two places available. Enquiries to 01446 772287 or 775735.

On Thursday, October 14 at 7pm in the Old Hall, High Street, there will be a practical evening 'changing the mood in colour,' led by Jane Gagg.

Non-members are welcome to both events.

Dish out Dosh

DISH out Dosh is a youth panel aiming to give young people in the Vale between the ages of 14–25 the opportunity to start up a youth-based project which has a community benefit.

If you have an idea but lack the dosh, call Vale Volunteer Bureau on 01446 421782; or go to the VVB facebook page www.vvb.org.uk.

Alternatively, pop into the VVB and ask to talk to an advisor at 34 Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4HD.

Vale MPs' surgeries

VALE MP Alun Cairns will be holding surgeries for advice and assistance on Friday, October 8 at the following locations: 1.30pm – 3pm at Wenvoe Community Hall, Wenvoe, CF5 6AL; 4pm – 5.30pm at Tesco, Stirling Road, Barry.

Anyone in the Vale is welcome to attend, but surgeries are very busy, and it is advisable to call 01446 403814 to make an appointment.

Street surgery

LABOUR councillors for the Gibbonsdown ward of Barry, Rob Curtis and Margaret Wilkinson, will be holding a street surgery in the Winston Road, Milton Road and Shelley Crescent areas this Saturday, October 9 between 4pm and 5pm.

Council surgery

LABOUR Vale and town councillors for Buttrills ward, Stuart Egan, Margaret Alexander and Pam Drake will be holding a monthly advice surgery on Saturday, October 9 from 10am to 11.30am in the Town Council offices, Gladstone Road, Barry. No appointment necessary.

Tax help for older people surgery

A*N income tax surgery for older people will be held at Pencoed Library on Wednesday, October 13.*

Free help and advice will be available to those with income tax problems.

For appointments, please telephone 0845 6013321.

Nearly new sale

A NEARLY new sale will be held on October 23 at Bryn Sion Hall, Court Road, Barry, from 1pm – 4pm.

Prices start from 20p and sale tables/rails include new and nearly new clothing, DVDs, videos, tombola and childrens lucky dip also available.

All proceeds will go to Barry and Disrict MENCAP. Everyone welcome; free admission.

For further information, contact Louise on 07815 495994 or MENCAP, Barry.

Chrysanths show

THIS year marks the 86th annual show of the Barry and District Chrysanthemum Society at the Salem Baptist Church Hall in Beryl Road, at 1.30pm on November 3.

Exhibitors can bring their exhibits on November 2 between 5.30pm to 8pm; or on the day from 8.30am to 9.30am.

Judging will commence at 10.30am.

Contact K Williams at 27 Regent Street for an entry form or telephone 01446 741733.

Gala cabaret

THE Craig and Penllyn Residents Association will hold a gala cabaret evening at Penllyn Village Hall at 7.30pm on November 6 with internationally renowned artist Maria Lyn.

Tickets £17.50 to include gourmet buffet, available from Barbara Whitehouse, on 01446 774184 and Liz Fidler on 01446 774485.

email your news items to The GEM at:
ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Close encounters of (the Welsh kind) in the Vale

UFO sightings in Barry and the Vale area form part of the inspiration for 'Waliens', a new novel by two former journalists.

Darren Bowker-Powis and Richard Finlan have collaborated on a tongue-in-cheek mix of UFOs, Celtic mythology, intrigue, conspiracy, and missing sheep.

Set in a fictional south Wales town, Waliens centres around a local newspaper reporter who is skeptical about the sightings being reported locally and around, but soon finds himself embroiled in the mystery.

Darren Bowker-Powis said: "Richard and I decided to write it jointly and drew on well documented Welsh UFO cases such as The Dyfed Triangle and The Berwyn Mountains incident, as well as some closer to home in the Barry and Vale area."

Richard added: "It was great fun to write and we ended up with enough ideas for two more books."

For more information, please go to www.daric-books.com.

Artists' show is praised

"IT was great to see the VOGA exhibition in the old Refectory at Dyffryn Gardens, making use of this splendid venue for an exhibition of their work as part of the restoration of Dyffryn Gardens," Vale AM Jane Hutt reported.

"With the exhibition closing on October 10, there is still time to view their work – paintings, ceramics and sculpture," she urged.

YMCA SHOWCASE

ON October 16 from 10.30am to 3pm, 'It's your YMCA', a showcase of activities in the YMCA Hub, John Street, Porthcawl.

YMCA junior and senior youth clubs, after school and holiday clubs, pottery and art, see the building proposals.

Also present are organisations that meet in the YMCA; Chamber of Trade, Churches Together, Moncards Craft, Porthcawl Leos, Want 2 Work, Royal British Legion Porthcawl, Breast Feed Support, Porthcawl Museum. Coffee, tea and snacks, bric-a-brac, book stall, cakes, plants and Leo the Lion's tombola. *Free entry.*

Local PACT meetings

CASTLELAND PACT, Atlantic Café, Bendricks roundabout on October 11 at 7pm.

DYFAN PACT, Old College Inn public house on October 14 between 12noon and 2pm.

BUTTRILLS PACT, Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, on October 21 at 6.30pm.

PENDOYLAN Community Council meeting, on October 14 at 7.45pm.

LLANDOW PACT public meeting, Ewenny Village Hall, on October 20 at 7pm.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PACT, Windsor public house on October 13 at 7pm.

SULLY PACT, Jubilee Hall on October 14 at 8.15pm.

LLANDOUGH PACT, Llandough Memorial Hall, on October 18 at 7pm.

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yng Nghapel Crallo
10.00am - 1.00pm
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Athletic beaten by Ravens

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40)

Bridgend are not at the top of the division for nothing and they surged back into the attack. A great break by centre John Leyshon should have resulted in an easy try but inexplicably he chose to go on his own and was pulled down short.

At the ruck Jonny Stoker, Penry-Ellis replacement, came off-side and was sent to the sidelines for 10 minutes and Griffiths sent over another penalty to restore the home team's lead.

The 14 men of the Athletic were now up against it, and another strike against the head allowed Ravens' replacement scrum-half to latch onto a pass from his captain, and No 8, Ioan Cunningham, who forced his way over for a try, converted by Griffiths.

The Athletic were not prepared to lie down and continued to disrupt their bigger opponents forcing two penalties in quick succession, one of which Cole converted.

As the game wore to a close the visitors had to throw caution to the winds but were not composed enough to force a breakthrough, and Bridgend managed to keep them in their own half.

A loose chip by the Ravens was returned down field by Aled Thomas, but as he chased the ball an Athletic player was in front and the resulting penalty allowed the home team to take away the invaluable losing bonus point.

Another disappointment for the Athletic but most observers seemed to agree that the home team probably just shaded the game and the result was a true reflection of the relative strengths of the teams.

Bridgend Athletic need fear no-one and can look forward to their next game, home to Waunarlwydd, with some confidence.

That match will be sponsored by Bridgend Athletic Old Boys - the former players of the club.

MD

The Athletic Seconds grab away victory

WRU 2nd team league	
MERTHYR RFC	16
BRIDGEND ATHLETIC	37

BRIDGEND Athletic Seconds took a strong team up to the Wern for this WRU 2nd team league fixture and came away with a hard-earned victory.

Shaun Owens opened the Ath account with a well-struck penalty after two minutes. Centre Carl Ellis then barged over for a touchdown near the posts, converted by Owens.

Two penalties by Bracey brought Merthyr back into the game, but tries by Lee Pemberton and Shaun Owens gave the Athletic a 20-6 half-time advantage.

Merthyr started the second half strongly and following a five-metre scrum, S Woodland forced himself over for an unconverted try to narrow the margin to nine points.

Although under pressure, the Ath responded with a breakaway try by Owens which he converted. Ellis kept the score ticking with a dropped goal, though Merthyr were still attacking and were rewarded with a try by J Price.

The Ath had the last say with a try by young prop Aled Thomas, converted by Owens, to make the final score 37-16 for the visitors.

RH

Nottage fayre success

NOTTAGE Primary School PTA held its summer fayre recently and was lucky to have wonderful sunshine, plenty of stalls the whole family enjoyed, and lots of fun.

The PTA raised around £2,000; the raffle accounting for nearly £800. Barclays Bank in Porthcawl are again matching the fund up to £750 for us. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success.

JD

Porthcawl grab first home win of the season

Porthcawl RFC secured their first home win of the season on Saturday, a result that lifts them to third in their division - these pictures show just how they went about it!

Captain Matt Davies with the ball.

Greg Drane tries to evade the tackle of the opposition centre.

Photographs by TRACEY WILLIAMS

Pupils beat the police in penalty shoot-out

PCSOs Richard Matthews and Richard Couch were joined by PCSOs Nerys Lloyd and Jon Howe, along with Sergeant Mike Davies, in playing the youngsters of Afon y Felin School, North Cornelly at 5-a-side football.

The match ended 5-5 with the school eventually beating us on penalties. The day was enjoyed by all and thankfully the sun was out, making the event all the more enjoyable.

PCSO Richard Matthews said: "It is important for local police staff to engage with the schools as it makes us more accessible, trustworthy and it is also a chance for the parents to get to know their local officers."

Who wants to build what and where in the county borough?

Bryntirion Infant School, Bryngolau, Bryntirion – Two flag poles, eco school flat and Wales flag.

Hafod Housing Association – **12 and 13 Ffordd Priordy, Sarn, Bridgend** – Crown raise and crown thin oak, reduce and shape one ash and fell one ash.

Mr J Morgan – **The Rock, Clevis Hill, Porthcawl** – various works to group of three pine trees and two sycamore trees.

Mr P Popp – **39/39A Gloucester Buildings, Pontycymmer, Bridgend** – Change of use to single dwelling.

Bright Skies Developments – **11 Penprysg Road, Pencoed** – Conversion, adaption and extension of dwelling house to create four one-bed self-contained flats.

Mr M Bradshaw – **Land adjacent to 32 Chilcott Avenue, Brynmenyn Industrial Estate, Bridgend** – Use of land as a car park associated with the land site and siting of container to house two compressors.

Mr M Dawkins – **35 Cwrt Coed Parc, Maesteg** – Two storey side extension.

Mr L Parslow – **Cwm Ffos, Bedford Road, Cefn Cribbwr** – Dig six wildlife ponds to help BAP species, affecting Footpath 31, Cefn Cribbwr.

Mr D Murphy – **Old Cottage Restaurant, 2A Queen Street, Bridgend** – Storage area to rear of restaurant.

Len Stanford – **The Lodge, Glynogwr, Bridgend** – Addition of extra bedroom with en-suite, constructed above existing kitchen and study.

Mr J D Morgan – **Land off A473 between Laleston and Bryntirion** – Proposed agricultural access to existing grazing field.

British Airways Pension Trustees – **Unit 3, Bridgend Retail Park, Cowbridge Road** – App for lawful dev certificate installation of internal mezzanine floor.

Mr B Cooper – **23 Picton Street, Kenfig Hill** – First floor extension.

H D Limited – **Elder Yard, Bridgend** – New development of two retail units.

RPS – **Llynfi Afan Renewable Energy Park** – Scoping opinion for proposed Llynfi Afan Renewable Energy Park.

Mr Anthony Wickham – **Site adjacent to Three Horse Shoes, Lamb Row, South Cornelly** – Pair of semi-detached two-bed houses and detached two-bed bungalow on site of former public house.

Mr and Mrs Mark Roberts – **74 Chantal Avenue, Penyfai** – Conversion of existing garage into habitable room.

Mr and Mrs N Campbell – **Coed y Mwster Uchaf Farm, Coychurch** – C/u and assoc conversion works to redundant barn to two self-catering holiday cottages.

Mr D Godbear – **Manor Farm Cottage, Porthcawl** – Redesign and resiting of barn.

PENCOED RFC ROUND UP

First team don't reach heights in away defeat

TAIBACH	29
PENCOED	27

PENCOED saved their best for last, but disappointing form on the road was again evident, rarely reaching the heights of their previous week's performance.

Pencoed's failure to come to terms with the home pack was their undoing. Pencoed captain Aaron Halse again led by example, and took the game to Taibach at every opportunity. Unfortunately his pack did not match the Taibach eight.

The match followed a familiar pattern to previous defeats, conceding tries to the opposition pack from close range, while again scoring the quality tries of the game.

Flanker Justin Russell's try, in particular, was superb, with fellow back row forwards Gareth Prentice, and Halse combining from 50 metres out.

With little time remaining, Pencoed looked out of it, but then showed what they are capable of with 14 points in the final three minutes.

This brought respectability to the scoreline, and a precious away losing bonus point.

Saturday sees Pencoed entertain Ystalyfera at the Recreation Ground, 2.30pm kick-off, and they will want to maintain their unbeaten run at home.

TR

Seconds ease to Cup win

Pencoed 2nd XV No 8 Rhys Pope crosses for one of his two tries in the District Cup tie against Bridgend Sports Seconds.

PENCOED 2nd XV	46
BRIDGEND SPORTS 2nds	27

PENCOED were comprehensive winners of this District Cup tie at the Recreation Ground, outscoring the Sports' eight tries to three.

In a fast flowing game, the home pack dominated the first half, with the visitors evening matters up a little in the second half.

With the home team returning to strength in numbers, this performance, consisting of a blend of emergent youth and experienced veterans, bodes well for the remainder of the season.

Several young players in particular put their hands up for first team squad consideration. Young back row forward Rhys Pope getting a brace of tries, together with the versatile Jamie Williams, playing at full-back, also getting a couple.

Liam Halse gave a typically aggressive performance in midfield, while half-backs Ben Read and Tom Cross showed good control, to complement the forward effort.

Tries also came from captain Ashley Halse, Robert Spears, veteran Phil Pinches, and Cross. Williams and Cross (2), added the extras.

On Saturday, the team are at home to Tonmawr.

TR

CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS

● *WE welcome your sports reports, news and other items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL (Tel: 01446 774484)*

KENFIG HILL RFC SEPTEMBER ROUND-UP

Ystalyfera can't dent first's unbeaten record

KENFIG HILL 1sts v YSTALYFERA

TWO unbeaten teams met when Kenfig Hill went down to Ystalyfera on September 25 and the Mules came away victorious, the only disappointment being that they failed to gain a bonus point.

Ystalyfera attacked straight from the kick-off and despite a series of five-yard scrums, the Mules' defence withstood the pressure and cleared up field where they gained a penalty which outside-half Gareth Lewis put over.

Fera attacked, again playing hide the ball rugby, and eventually went over from yet another scrum close to the line.

The Mules then started playing rugby. Kenfig Hill took the lead when Lewis put over another penalty.

This gave a half-time score of: Kenfig Hill 6 Ystalyfera 5.

For the first minutes of the second half the spectators were treated to a game of tennis, and then the Mules started to gain possession and were rewarded with two quick penalties which Lewis put over. The Fera responded with a penalty by full-back Gareth James.

Kenfig Hill were now dominant and only some desperate defending kept them at bay and replacement scrum-half for Kenfig Hill, Tom Briggs, picked the ball up from the base of a scrum and danced his way over for a fine individual try. The home side then put over a long range penalty by James.

Ystalyfera were then given two yellow cards in quick succession for foul play and the Mules' superior fitness started to show.

The Mules' centre Nicky Morgan bulldozed his way over for a try in the corner, while players from both sides were red-carded.

This galvanised the Mules into action and they gave the best reply possible with a try by flanker Steve Gillard, who blasted his way over from the opponents' 25-yard line, converted by Lewis.

This gave a final score of Kenfig Hill 29 Ystalyfera 11.

Substitute Tom Briggs was named as the Kenfig Hill man of the match. The front row of Gavin Reffell, Neil Bilingham and Gavin Jenkins played particularly well with Steve Gillard again standing out in the back row.

The defensive qualities of centres Nicky Morgan and Rhodri Clark also played a significant part in the game and there was a cultured performance by Raymond Evans at full-back.

KENFIG HILL 2nd XV 21
WICK 1st XV 17

THE Mules overcame a tenacious Wick outfit in an evenly-fought contest at Kenfig Hill.

Both sides refused to give an inch with some thunderous tackling from both teams. Wick went into an early lead with a long range effort from their speedy full-back, which was converted from wide out.

The Mules struck back with a penalty from outside-half and playmaker Matthew Tossell, followed by an opportunist try from Ian Williams which was converted by Tossell to leave the Mules leading at the break.

The second half was a more scrappy affair. Both teams just managed a further try apiece, with full-back Scott Hancock crashing over from five yards following a speculative kick ahead.

For the Mules, the midfield tackling of Tossell, Jamie Meers and fellow centre David Williams stood out and there was a man of the match performance from scrum-half Ryan Giles who delivered an impeccable service to Tossell for the whole 80 minutes.

This win leaves the Seconds unbeaten in Division 1.

Tom Briggs dives over for the first try.

Stever Gillard crosses the line.

KENFIG HILL under-10s 14
PORTHCAWL 14

IN Kenfig Hill's first game of the new season, they travelled to local rivals Porthcawl for a local derby.

The young Mules made the breakthrough with good play from Connor Farnham and Corey Bower helping Dante Phillips plough over in the corner for the try.

Kenfig upped the pressure and good interplay between Connor Morgan and Cameron Jenkins, and a lovely pass from Jack Underhill, saw Connor Brace skip over for the second try – Connor Brace converted both tries.

During the second half, Porthcawl replied with two converted tries of their own.

Will Underhill, Sion Jones and Phil Burnell played well for the forwards, while Connor Brace, Cam Jenkins and Leon Jones shone for the backs.

KENFIG HILL 56
LLANTWIT MAJOR 14

KENFIG Hill went on the rampage during this game, bringing together all the work that they had put in during pre-season.

They were better drilled than Llantwit both up front and in the silky back line. The forwards dominated the early part of the game and tries game from Dante Phillips, Connor Morgan, and Phil Burnell.

Scrum-half Nico Evans scored a lovely individual effort and a good back line move saw Connor Farnham power his way over the line, bringing the half-time score after all tries were converted to Kenfig Hill 35 Llantwit 0.

Llantwit got into the game with two tries, but this just inspired the Mules into some brilliant rugby and they finished off with three further tries during the half, from Callum Lewis and Connor Brace.

KENFIG HILL under-8s v TAIBACH under-8s

CAPTAIN for the first time was Cai Williams, beaming dad Jan watched as his son led a rousing second half fight-back by the under-8s to come from 3-0 down to earn a 4-4 draw.

Thomas Llewellyn and Ewan Davis performed particularly well.

Taibach went through their six-tag sets several times but were simply unable to make any real headway.

Jack Davies' power and turn of pace saw him race clear to open the Mules' account, equalled with similar pace and attacking flair for a brace by Alex Underhill. Completing the recovery was Mark Underhill with a couple of steps that opened up the heart of the defence for his score.

Playing mostly the same Taibach unit, the under-7s performed admirably in going down by five tries to two.

KENFIG HILL under-7s v TAIBACH under-7s

FIRST time on field were coaches John and Peter, who did a great job keeping the inexperienced under-7s working hard right up until the final whistle.

Kelvin Mills tagged superbly during his first game as captain, while Matthew Briggs was involved admirably on his debut. The day's final 'first' came from Thomas Knapp, notching up his first-ever try for the Mules after a neat catch and run through a hoard of home players.

Recording a try for the second week in succession was Adam Johnson, aided by a lovely off-load by rapidly improving Daniel Jones.

Pictures by PETER GILLING

Mark Jenkins on the charge supported by the Mules front row.

Under-12s show form

KENFIG HILL under-12s started this season as they finished last season – undefeated.

Their first game against Briton Ferry was a Cup game and ended in a great score of 34–5, with tries by Danny Pearcey, Kieron Morgan, Scott Williams, Nathan Godwin and Callum David, with two conversions by Josh Davies.

The team hopes to continue its excellent form this season.

B Attack see off Pie Boys

B ATTACK have moved into prime position for runners-up spot in the Bridgend 6-a-side Premier Division as Nathan Watkins pulled the strings in a 5-1 thumping of The Pie Boys.

Hangover Heroes and No Tea Tonight vastly improved their chances of escaping the drop as they recorded fine wins over Sarn Devils, 3-0, and Black Jack, 2-0.

Glynn Davies made sure that Persil Boys continue to lead the way in Division One as they saw off the challenge of Inter Wildmill by the solitary goal to nil, while Young Exiles will be hoping to mount a promotion push following a 3-0 win over Hardly Athletic.

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Police Youth rue more wasted chances against Uplands

Police centre Dan James looks for a way through.

SOUTH WALES POLICE YOUTH 14
SWANSEA UPLANDS 21

Pictures by GARETH DAVIES

Police full-back Rosser attacks the gap.

SOUTH Wales Police Youth welcomed Swansea Uplands to Waterton Cross and some poor tackling and lack of concentration saw the visitors get a converted try with less than a minute on the clock.

However, the Police put some good phases of play together, and good hands from centre Dan James and full-back Huw Rosser saw ball fed to wing Jack Evans within his own 22 to go on a superb solo run, eventually diving over in the corner. Full-back Rosser again added the conversion from a tricky angle.

The Police continued their policy of playing an expansive game, however, poor decision making and dropped passes saw chances wasted.

Uplands attacked the Police line, however the home side defence stood solid with excellent work from Josh Thomas, Scott Bryant and live wire scrum-half Ieuan Davies.

With the Police camped on the Uplands try line, a loose pass saw the visitors take the interception and go the full length of the field to go over under the posts for another converted try.

The Police rallied and good forward work from Jordan Jones, Mathew Davies and Patrick Roberts saw scrum-half Davies feed Dan James, who went on a dazzling solo run to go over and Rosser added the extras.

Despite their defensive efforts, the Police found themselves behind again with the visitors adding another converted try.

The Police threw everything at the visitors and seemed to have looked to have the chance of salvaging the draw when back row Jordan Jones took a quick penalty and forced his way over the Uplands line close to the posts; however, the referee's decision on this occasion didn't go their way.

For the Police, far to many penalties are being given away and numerous scoring opportunities are constantly being wasted.

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The job involves dealing with customers by phone and in the showroom, conducting on site surveys and following up estimates. Experience would be beneficial, but training will be given.
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Send CV to Managing Director, Topstak, Unit 42, Vale Business Park, Cowbridge CF71 7PF
Email: christian.pedersen@topstak.co.uk

Admin Person
REQUIRED IN COWBRIDGE
Dealing with invoicing, shipping paperwork, statements/bookkeeping and general office duties. Experience required.
For further information, please ring Mr Salvo Erri on 07875 776464 or salvo@sersholdings.com

Wanted: Reliable Person with own transport
Heavy duty garden clearance and other maintenance work on 13/14 October (2 days) in Rhoose.
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required for a local company in Llandow.
You will be required to operate assigned machines to produce various products.
The position requires a substantial amount of manual handling, you will need to be fit and have good health and safety awareness, have a basic education background with reading, writing and basic maths skills.
To receive an application form, please contact 01446 774028

Male Voice Choir

Kenfig Hill Male Voice Choir
performing in
Llantwit Major Rugby Club
This **Saturday October 9th**
7.30pm prompt start
Tickets *£10* - Bar & Nibbles
Call 01446 794729 for tickets

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£100 to £1,000
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Conservative Notice

The Llantwit Major Branch of the Welsh Conservatives
will be holding a
SURGERY on
Saturday October 9, 11am-12 noon at the Heritage Centre of the Town Hall, Llantwit Major. If you would like to raise any local issues, please call in.

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1.6 petrol, one owner, 7 seats, 41,000 miles, a/c, cd player, long MOT, excellent condition.
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WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr and Mrs Martin – **Decca Springfield Cottage, Llancarfan** – two storey extension.
ABK Property (S Wales) LLP – **land adjacent to New Parc Farm, St Donats** – erection of two detached dwellings and garages, re-alignment of access to site together with the demolition of existing precast ATCOST type farm buildings.
Mr Mike Gibbon – **land at Church Farm, Llandow** – retrospective application for a private manege.
Mr David Wilson – **4 Windmill Close, Llantwit Major** – raising of lower flat roof to upper flat roof level (amendment to planning approval 2009/01270/FUL).
Lloyds Pharmacy Limited – **29-31 Court Road, Barry** – construction of two extensions to the existing property. One extension on the side of the property and one to the rear of the property.
Mr and Mrs Phillips – **21 Robinswood Close, Penarth** – loft extension including alterations to front and rear dormer, balcony, porch and extension at rear.
Sir Brooke Boothby – **Fonmon Castle, Fonmon** – proposed work will involve emergency repair to the building's fabric. This includes timber truss and beam repairs, repair and replacement of stone casement windows, replacement of timber lintels, localised consolidation of loose sections of masonry and repair of the south elevation stonework and rainwater goods.
Mr Stephen Hurst – **4 St Teilo Avenue, Barry** – amendments to application 2009/01046/FUL for new semi-detached house - retrospective works: Addition of one new window and omission of two windows.
Miss Susan Gwilliam – **Meadowcroft, Port Road, Rhoose** – erection of two single storey timber buildings for use as a boarding cattery (including change of use).
Mrs Gerda Benjuya – **21 Cardigan Close, Dinas Powys** – retain the fence as built-on site.
Mr Owen Tilsley – **Pikel House, Cowbridge Road, St Nicholas** – two storey extension and single storey swimming pool building.
Mr AJ Woodhouse – **Elm House, Groesfaen Road, Peterston Super Ely** – extension of residential curtilage to form garden area.
Mrs Kath Bevan – **1 St Mary's Avenue, Barry** – single storey lean-to extension to rear of property.
Mr Tom Andrews – **26 Marine Drive, Ogmore by Sea** – proposed conversion of existing integral garage to playroom, guest bedroom and en-suite.
Mr Ralph Evans – **Unit 02, Seaview, St Athan** – proposed retention of barn converted to dwelling.
Mr Huw Thomas – **Ty Verlon Industrial Estate, Barry** – proposed 40 space overflow car park adjacent to existing facility.
Mr Andrew Thomas – **10 Plas Gwernen, Barry** – proposed two storey extension to side to form bedroom with en-suite and dining room.
Mr Brian Turton – **14 Elworthy Close, Sully** – single storey extension and chimney.
Mr Ian Hunt – **Boverton Road, Llantwit Major** – two storey café with external seating at ground floor level and a terrace at first floor.
Mr C Regan – **Windy Ridge Farm, south-west of Television Transmitting Station, Wenvoe** – detached stables for private use.
Airwave Solutions Limited – **Barry Island Gym, Paget Road, Barry** – installation of two, four stack dipole antennas on freestanding grillage and ancillary development with the equipment located within an internal equipment room at ground level.
Celtic Wool Insulation Ltd – **First floor, 70 Eastgate, Cowbridge** – change of use of first floor from residential to office use.
Mr Derek Richardson – **31 Albert Road, Penarth** – alterations to ground floor shop unit, extensions and flat at first floor.
Housing, Vale of Glamorgan Council **– 4 Barons Close, Llantwit Major** – change of use from Local Housing Scheme Rent Office back to original dwelling.
Mr Paul Richards – **38 Wimbourne Close, Llantwit Major** – proposed two storey extension.
Mansion Park Properties Ltd and Waterstone Homes Ltd – **former Westra Quarry site, St Andrews Road, Dinas Powys** – erection of seven dwellings and associated highway and drainage works.
Mr A Davies – **48 Craig Yr Eos Road, Ogmore-by-Sea** – proposed conversion of double garage to form a one-bedroom annex with dormers.
Mr H Thomas – **land off A4222, Crofta, Ynysowen** – retention of stables.
Mr Peter Vidler – **Cwrt yr Ala, unclassified road, Michaelston le Pit** – new workshop and store to replace former building on same site now collapsed.
Mr Tony McCarthy – **Lynton, Tredodridge, Pendoylan, Cowbridge** – renewal of planning permission 2005/00840/FUL for an extension and double garage.
Mrs Elizabeth Davey – **Heol Las Barn, Llangan** – conversion to tourist accommodation of existing disused barn. Substitute metal roof with slate roof and the small rear projection will be also re-roofed and the height slightly increased.
Mr Rhodri Brown – **26 Mill Park, Cowbridge** – conversion of existing garage to habitable room and provision of new door to front elevation.

Public Notices

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS VERIFICATION NUMBER

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 the Council is able to make arrangements for the discharge of its Executive functions in a specified form.

Where the Council's proposals involve an Elected Mayor it is required to hold a referendum before implementing such a procedure. Regulations also provide that the Council may be petitioned to hold such a referendum if at least 10% of the Local Government electors in the authority's area require it. The Council has to publish a statement of what figure represents 10% of the electorate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the number of electors (the verification number) representing 10% of the registered electors in the Vale of Glamorgan is 9,389.

The above published number will have effect for the purposes of determining the validity of petitions for a directly elected mayor presented on or after 3 May 2011 up to, and including 31 October 2011.

The rules for the presentation of a petition are contained in the Local Authorities (Referendums) (Petitions and Directions) (Wales) Regulations 2003.

John Maitland Evans, Proper Officer,
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU

BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 2000 TREFNIADAU GWEITHREDOL RHIF DILYSU

O dan ddarpariaethau Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 mae'r Cyngor yn gallu gwneud trefniadau i gyflawni ei ddyletswyddau Gweithredol ar ffurf benodol.

Pe byddai'r Cyngor yn ystyried Maer Etholedig byddai rhaid cynnal refferendwm cyn gweithredu ar hynny. Ceir darpariaeth hefyd yn y Rheoliadau i'r Cyngor gynnal refferendwm pe byddai o leiaf 10% o etholwyr Llywodraeth Leol yn ardal yr awdurdod yn gofyn am hynny. Rhaid i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi datganiad o ba ffigwr sy'n cynrychioli 10% o'r etholwyr.

RHODDIR RHYBUDD DRWY HYN mai nifer yr etholwyr (y rhif dilysu) sy'n cynrychioli 10% o etholwyr cofrestredig Bro Morgannwg yw 9,389.

Y rhif a gyhoeddir uchod a fydd yn cael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer penderfyniu pa mor ddilys yw deisebau yn gofyn am ethol maer yn uniongyrchol a gyflwynir ar neu ar ôl 3 Mai 2011 hyd at a chan gynnwys 31 Hydref 2011.

Mae'r rheolau ar gyfer cyflwyno deisebau yn y Rheoliadau Awdurdodau Lleol (Refferenda) (Deisebau a Chyfarwyddiadau) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2003.

John Maitland Evans, Y Swyddog Priodol,
Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri, CF63 4RU

Back to the industrial past – and a bird's eye view of Ogmore Valley

On the Penarth and District Ramblers' first walk after the autumn equinox, instead of the weather deteriorating, the sky was blue and the sun shining as 11 walkers joined Clive for a circular walk beginning at Ton Pentre, a former industrial coal mining area.

Where the village stands there was originally a cluster of platform houses or hafodi – small farming buildings occupied only during the months of summer. Later, this became a farm and a few cottages which were known as Y Ton (the meadow) and owned by their absentee landlord Crawshay Bailey, the well-known iron master. To distinguish the area from nearby Tonypandy, it became Ton Pentre.

Their initial climb began from a residential area and the group left civilisation and headed up to Mynydd Maendy, where an Iron Age fort once stood and was the site of the earliest recorded settlement in the area at Maendy Camp, which dates from between 700BC and 100AD.

The themed walk concentrated on the sites of several collieries and a map of 1770 showed three coal pits that were sited on Maendy Mountain. With the Rhondda Valley coal production at its height, Ton Pentre had Maindy colliery started by David Davies and his partners in 1864, which at its peak employed 1,155 men, and Eastern colliery, sunk by David Davies in 1887.

These two pits were combined under the protection of the Ocean Steam Coal Company and were worked until 1948 when Maindy closed and Eastern followed suit in 1959.

Continuing along the edge of Tarren Felen Uchaf, a gentle ascent followed and they stopped to look at small gravestones along the way. From there, they could see the Ogmore Valley coming into view and gazing down on Nantymoel and Price Town, they saw where the Wyndham collieries were located.

They continued towards Craig y Geifr and the cairn at Mynydd William Meyrick, which stands at 517 metres where the view stretches towards the Bristol Channel, Steep Holm, Aberthaw, Ogmore, Porthcawl and the Somerset coastline.

Mynydd Maendy.

Further on, they crossed a stile and followed a forest path until they reached a logging motorway, and following that they turned off through some trees and over a small stream to begin their descent on Cwm Cesig, where they stopped for lunch.

Continuing on down the valley, they crossed open ground that would have been the site of the Bwllfa level which was opened in 1862 by Richardson and Carr, before returning through an urban area to their start point.

On October 9, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 8-mile moderate walk at Machen, Draethen and Ruperra Castle; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On October 10, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a 9-mile moderate walk at Oxwich and Horton that was cancelled last weekend; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

'Keep roads clear in winter' – says Plaid

THE Vale Council has been asked about its plans to keep roads clear of snow and ice this winter.

Plaid Cymru AM for South Wales Central, Chris Franks, told The GEM they had asked for assurances from the council regarding stocks of road grit or salt.

"The Council said they have surveyed the critical routes and increased salt levels. The council have 4,600 tonnes ready to use before the winter sets in.

"If the grit runs out they have an on-going contract with a supplier to ensure roads are kept clear.

"I don't know if residents will feel reassured. If they do find they have problems, they should contact my office and I will raise the issue with the council.

"Last winter, the Vale stopped gritting some roads that are usually treated. Plaid does not want this situation to be repeated this year," Mr Franks added.

Vote for the youth champion of the Vale!

YOUNG people in the Vale are being urged to take part in Local Democracy Week which starts on October 11, and vote for their 'youth champion'.

Local councillors will be publishing their manifestos and undertaking 'surgeries' at local schools to allow pupils to raise the issues that matter to them. The surgeries will be held on the council's youth bus, the VPOD, which will visit secondary schools in the area.

The councillors taking part are the leader of the council, Gordon Kemp (for the Conservatives), Chris Elmore (standing for Labour), Steffan Wiliam (for Plaid Cymru) and Gwyn John (representing the Independents).

For the last two years local youngsters have chosen Penarth councillor Sophie Williams as their youth champion.

Sophie's message to young people is: "*You need to get involved in Local Democracy Week to make sure you have your say in the matters that affect you. This is your chance to get your voice heard!*"

GEM Family Notices

Obituaries

BATES
Christopher

Peacefully on September 25 at Holme Tower, Penarth, Chris, of Llantwit Major, beloved husband of Yvonne. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James and Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, October 15th, service and cremation 12 noon at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Holme Tower Marie Curie Centre c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose CF62 3DZ.

PURNELL
Sheila

Peacefully on 1st October at the University Hospital of Wales, beautiful, dearly loved wife to Peter. Devoted mother to Vicky and Sue and 'Nan' to Hannah, Ben, Luke and Daniel. Many thanks to Dr Fagin and his team who cared for Mum.

Funeral Monday 11th October at St.Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major at 2.30pm., then at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.45pm.

Family flowers only. Donations to Leukaemia Research Appeal Wales. Cheques gratefully accepted c/o W.A.Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major.

PHELPS
Elizabeth Barbara (Babs)

Passed away peacefully on September 29, 2010, at Princess of Wales Hospital after an extended stay.

Beloved wife of the late Bill, dearly loved Mum of Michael and Stephen, and adored Grandma of Andrew, Sarah and Simon. Will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral service at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Wednesday October 13 at 1.15pm, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only. Donations made payable to Crossroads and forwarded to Crossroads, West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2YG.

WRIGHT
Wendy Catherine
Late of Penllyn

Peacefully on 1st October, 2010 at Princess of Wales Hospital. Wendy will be sadly missed by husband David, daughters Sue and Jane, their husbands Rik and Alun and treasured grandchildren Melanie, Harrison and Tom.

Also missed by friends and neighbours.

Funeral service at Penllyn Church on Tuesday, 12th October, 2010 at 2.15pm followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm.

Family flowers only and donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, c/o Thomas Bros, Mitson Cottage, Llandough, Cowbridge, CF71 7LR.

Acknowledgements

Henson
William Peter (Bill)

Eilleen, Lynda and all his devoted family would like to thank everyone for their kindness, beautiful flowers, cards, letters and donations to charity. Also for their attendance at the crematorium and St Athan Golf Club, to celebrate his life. As everyone said he was a true gentleman and we'll all miss him very much.

JAMES
Kristopher Gareth
Died 8 September 2010

Delyth, Gareth, Karen, Rob and Scarlett would like to thank family and friends for their kindness and sympathy at the sad loss of Kris and all who helped to celebrate his life on Thursday, 30 September at Llantwit Major. He was a great Dad, Son, Brother and Uncle, he will be greatly missed by all who loved him.

Williams
Donald

Betty and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for the lovely flowers and cards sent.

Also many thanks to the ladies of the Bowls Club for the wonderful buffet they put on.

Birthday Memory

Maureen Ann Bryant

Loving memories of our sister Maureen on her 70th birthday, October 11, 2010.

Love, Margaret and Frances.

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Birthdays

Happy 7th Birthday
LILY-ANN GORE
October 11th
Lots of love and kisses, Mummy, Daddy & all your family
x x x

Anniversaries

Congratulations on your GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MUM & DAD
(Chris & Mike Miller)
on 8 October 2010

All our love, Michelle, Di, Daz, Mick, Jen and all the grandchildren.
XXXXXX

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

KITCHEN UNITS Floor, wall & display. Oak, breakfast bar, green worktops, range cooker, composite sink & mixer tap. Good condition. £400. Tel: 01446 790313. **(41)**

STAG FULL DRUM KIT Ideal for beginners, £50. Tel: 01446 719589, 07769 290865. **(41)**

20 JOSEPHINE COX NOVELS Excellent condition £25. Tel: 01656 768723. **(41)**

DOORS White internal Chester Focus £40 for three. Beko silver grill and oven, Argos p262, H90" x W50" x D60", £150. Tel: 01446 678368. **(41)**

JCB CHAINSAW 38cc 40cm bar, new - still in box £90. 4 Pilkingson glass mirrors, 7'3" x 3', suit gym/studio £100. Pine 3 drawer chest with country mirrors £40. Tel: 01656 789096. **(40)**

BEIGE STOOL Size 18.5" x 13.5" x 17" approx, plus seat opens up £15. Tel: 01446 746627. **(40)**

HARWOOD FRONT DOOR, brand new 78in x 33in x 1 3/4in - £70. Tel: 01446 734545 (9am to 5.30pm). **(39)**

RED CARPET with small white motif, hardly used 15ft 3in x 9ft 6in - £75 ono. Tel: 01446 792898. **(39)**

THREE SEATER SETTEE plus one chair and pouffee, very good condition - £100. Tel: 01446 775318. **(39)**

BLACK CHILLER FRIDGE excellent condition - £40. Large armchair, navy, loose covers - £40. Tel: 01446 412419. **(39)**

BURGUNDY computer chair - £25. Expandable navy suitcase 26in x 18in approx. - £20. Tel: 01446 746627.**(39)**

LARGE OLD CORNER CABINET on stand, dark oak, Jacobean style. 70" high including base x 39" face - £160. Buyer collect. Tel: 01446 750141. **(39)**

PIANO Excellent condition, tuned recently £220. Buyer collect. Tel: 01446 710573. **(38)**

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ERCOL DINING TABLE Downsizing, immaculate with 4 chairs, seats 6/8. Other quality furniture available. Tel: 01446 413150. **(38)**

CASIO full size keyboard with case, excellent condition £60. Tel: 01446 748801. **(38)**

FRENCH POLISHED Dining room table. 6ft length, 6 chairs, will extend and seat up to 10 people. Excellent condition £300 ono. Matching cabinet £150 ono. Tel: 01446 796720. **(38)**

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Drake's delight over Vale betting coup

THE news that the British Horse Racing Authority is investigating the background to the recent Vale-trained *Am I Blue* horse gambling coup is music to the ears of Glamorgan GEM columnist Brian Lee, who has written a book about Welsh horse racing's scandals and gambles.

Brian, 74, who has been writing and reporting on the Welsh horse racing scene for the national and local press for more than 40 years, said: "My publisher Ashley Drake, of St David's Press, was delighted when he read about the mammoth gamble as the story will bring my book right up to date."

Brian's book will include scams that have taken place at point-to-points and flapping (unlicensed) meetings as well as those at National Hunt and Flat meetings.

He will also reveal that Cardiff bookmaker Gomer Charles, shot dead on his Park Place doorstep in 1966, and who was involved in the Santa Amaro-Francasal Bath races ringer scandal, was not the only Cardiffian who knew all about the plot.

Am I Blue, owned and trained by Delyth Thomas of Kenfig Hill, romped home an unchallenged winner at Hereford recently after being backed from 25–1 to 5–1 and after Cowbridge rider Dean Coleman had been replaced by top jockey Richard Johnson. *Am I Blue*, a four-year-old filly, had previously been trained by Aberthin's Tim Vaughan.

Point-to-Point

THE Glamorgan Hunt will stage their annual point-to-point races at Ystradowen on March 26, while the Ystrad Hunt will hold their fixture at the same venue a fortnight later, on April 16.

Evan's easy winner

RUSSELLSTOWN Boy, a ten-year-old brown gelding trained by Evan Williams at Llancarfan, romped home an easy winner of the Chemtech Handicap Chase at Uttoxeter on Sunday.

Partnered by stable jockey Paul Moloney, Russellstown Boy, a winner of an Irish point-to-point race, won easing up by 27 lengths from Mister Wiseman at the lucrative odds of 12-1.

Tim's joy at his Lingfield winner

***FRAMEIT*, a bay gelding trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthin, and ridden by Liam Keniry, held on by a head to beat *Belle Boleyn* in division one of the Bet365 Handicap (Division 1) for three-year-olds at Lingfield last Friday.**

A previous course winner at Lingfield, *Frameit* also runs over hurdles and was backed from 14–1 to 9–1.

Brynhill legend presents Ron with Grasscutter Cup

In this picture you can see Fred presenting the trophy to Ron in the presence of many of his friends.

BACK in 1939, a 13-year-old Fred Clissett started caddying for members at Brynhill Golf Club, then, after the war, he became greenkeeper at the club before finally becoming a member and actually playing the marvellous game of golf!

In 2006, on his 80th birthday, the members arranged a golf match in his honour and called it The Grasscutter Cup, and this has become a tradition.

So, in its fourth year, it was again played on Fred's birthday – this time his 84th – and was won by Ron Holland with an amazing 43 points.

For those golfers in the know, it was only years ago that Fred 'shot his age'!

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

Customising the look of your computer

WOULDN'T it be nice to be able to change the colour of your car and its upholstery, free, at any time? Makers expect the combinations they choose will sell. Once bought, they are effectively fixed.

When you drive your computer, however, you can tailor just about all you can see as often as you like to suit your personal taste or mood – or not. Much better!

Love or hate them, computers now play a huge part in our lives and they are here to stay.

Computers usually come with an operating system (OS) already installed; probably Microsoft Windows. The chances are that most people you know are using it.

Windows isn't like application software that lets you write the great British novel or send e-mails. It is an OS that takes its name from the little 'windows' it places on-screen. It converts instructions into action in a sensible way.

Each window shows information, such as a running program. Several windows can be displayed simultaneously and it is easy to move between them. A single window can be enlarged to fill the entire screen.

When the machine starts-up, the system arrives on the screen and then handles the smooth running of everything. Besides controlling the computer, Windows has built-in basic programmes. They allow the user to write letters (WordPad); browse the Internet (Internet Explorer); play music (Media Player) and whittle down camcorder holiday footage into a three-minute short (Movie Maker).

On first use, Windows displays a basic look or 'theme' set by Microsoft. That look is capable of being customised to suit individual requirements and this was the subject of Steve's talk.

It is possible to change the appearance of just about anything you see on the screen; ranging from the general background down to any of the components of the window itself, such as the style of lettering, colours of frames, size of windows, style and speed of the mouse pointer and much more.

Steve began with the intention of demonstrating all this, but was side-tracked somewhat.

Despite the advent of Windows Vista and, more recently, Windows 7, many members are still using Windows XP.

Steve has Windows 7 installed on his laptop, and, for demonstration purposes, had installed Windows XP on a Microsoft Virtual PC.

There is a standing invitation for questions from the floor. This was vigorously taken up by the members, many queries being about the Virtual PC.

Responding to them meant going off-script, but Steve was able to display answers within both versions of Windows. Some bits of the talk were necessarily deferred.

The result was a truly interactive meeting. Members are looking forward to having more evenings just like it. We shall deal with virtual PCs on a dedicated evening.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 12 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. I will talk about 'Golden Rules and Hints and Tips.' Visitors and new members always welcome.

For more information, ring me on 029 20708439.

HOWARD DESMOND, CHAIRMAN

Sully Sports grab a bonus point win over Cathays

SULLY SPORTS	**29**
CATHAYS	**17**

Action from the lineout.

SULLY Sports had a two-week lay off prior to this match and the rustiness showed during the opening quarter of the match.

They conceded an early try thanks to some sloppy tackling, but this in turn ignited the forwards who had been misfiring at the breakdown.

They took it upon themselves to assert some pressure, which resulted in some space for the backs to work their magic. After several phases of controlled rucks and mauls, Sully Sports got behind their visitors defensive line, creating a resultant overlap for winger Dave Stillman to touch down.

Unfortunately, the home side hadn't learnt from the opening errors and through sloppy defence, Cathays crossed over for a converted try.

The visitors, with their tails up, continued to pile on the pressure but Sully Sports managed to keep them out until half-time.

The home side upped their game in the second half, and attacked Cathays with the forwards driving through the phases, resulting in a typical eight-man try with flanker John Thomas claiming the touchdown among the mass of bodies.

Sully started to click through the gears up front and out wide, and from a text book lineout inside their own half, the ball was moved with great pace and width, creating space for strike runner Nathan Schuznik. He made a strong run, breaking several tackles before the ball was recycled quickly, allowing Wayne Jones to be on hand to run in from 20 metres under the posts.

Sully Sports now had the bit between their teeth and through several well worked phases, a try came for man of the match, prop Jody Velda.

The entire side worked hard on and off the ball and from another good lineout deep in the Cathays half, winger Schuznik was worked into space to cross over for his first try for the club on his debut.

After gaining a well-earned lead, the home side took their foot off the pedal and eye off the ball to allow Cathays a consolation try just before the final whistle.

Team: L Walters, D Stillman, I Moore, P Mees(c), W Jones, M Phillips, M Mees; D Stillman, R Eason, J Velda, M Angove, J Di-Tomaso, J Haysham, J Thomas, S Mills. Subs: R Franks, A Stillman, R Swinfen, P Miller, N Schuznik.

The squad would like to thank Paul Miller's wife Helen for being the stand-in physio in the absence of Ron.

WEBSITE

The club would like to announce the launch of the new official club website, www.sullysportsrfc.co.uk, where you can catch up on the latest news, including match reports and events at the club.

JDT

Early season victory for the Barry Chess Club

THE East Glamorgan Chess Association's 2010–2011 league season commenced in early September and teams from Barry Chess Club have been engaged in several matches over the opening few weeks.

There are ten teams in each of the league's four divisions and Barry Chess Club is represented in divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 by, respectively, The Bosons, The Camelots, The Gambits and The Quarks.

Each team of five players engages in home and away fixtures against teams representing other clubs in their division.

The Gambits were first into action when they visited Cardiff Crowns. A satisfactory 3–2 victory for Barry was recorded to settle early season nerves and get the club off to a winning start.

The Camelots travelled to play recently demoted Pontypridd Stranglers.

An early win on board 5 gave Barry a 1–0 lead and this was soon doubled when board 1 also fell to the visitors.

Sadly, the momentum was not maintained and Ponty equalised by winning boards 3 and 4. Barry were nevertheless still hopeful of a match victory as they held their initiative on board 2 but the game ultimately slipped into a drawn position, leaving the match also drawn with 2½ points for each side.

In yet another away opening fixture, The Quarks found themselves up against a strong Caerphilly Knights team and could only manage to record two draws in a dispiriting 4–1 loss.

Barry at last played hosts when, in a double-header at the West End club, The Bosons entertained Cardiff AJs, and The Gambits played their second match of the season against Penarth Barons.

The AJs is a team comprised mainly of some of Cardiff Chess Club's most promising teenagers but the experience and strength of Barry's first team proved too much for the young stars and Barry duly recorded a healthy 4–1 victory.

Celebrations were unfortunately subdued when The Gambits failed to follow up their promising start to the season and crumbled to a humiliating ½ – 4½ loss against their next-town neighbours.

Back on the road again, The Camelots continued their campaign against Cardiff Dragons. Although the visitors lost board 4, wins on boards 1 and 3 and a draw on board 2 assured Barry of at least a drawn match, but things were not looking too promising in the remaining game.

With Barry's player in a totally lost ending, the clock came to the rescue and a win on time allowed the visitors to record a slightly fortuitous 1½ – 3½ victory.

In another away fixture, The Gambits travelled to play Bridgend Transformers. Perhaps rattled by their previous drubbing, the team put up a disappointing performance and let slip good chances which should have yielded them more than the 3–2 loss which they recorded.

A mixed bag of fortunes for Barry thus far, but the season is still young and there will be many twists and turns in clubs' fortunes before it ends next April.

Barry Chess Club meets every Thursday evening at 7.30pm on the first floor of the West End club, St Nicholas Road, Barry. Anyone with an interest in chess is welcome to visit for a friendly game with one of the club's regulars before perhaps considering playing regularly in league matches.

KEVIN GANDY

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COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND-UP

Annual sports presentation evening is a huge success for comprehensive

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School staged their annual sports presentation at the new school on September 23.

The school gained successes in the following sports:

DAILY TELEGRAPH NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS AWARD SPORTS SCHOOL OF THE YEAR – Third place.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR 2010 – JUNIOR FEMALE WINNER (SQUASH AND GOLF), Katie Bradbury;

JUNIOR FEMALE RUNNER UP (CYCLING), Ruby Ellis;

JUNIOR FEMALE RUNNER UP (CRICKET), Bethan Moorecraft;

JUNIOR MALE RUNNER UP (SKIING), Sam Stephens;

JUNIOR MALE RUNNER UP (KARTING), Tom Harvey;

SENIOR FEMALE RUNNER UP (SKIING), Alice Hayles.

CROSS COUNTRY

CUPS: UNDER-12 GIRLS CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Winners; CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY LEAGUE, Winners; CAPTAIN, Rebecca Thomas.

UNDER-13 GIRLS SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS, Winners; CAPTAIN, Annabel Curle.

UNDER-19 GIRLS CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Runners up;

CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY LEAGUE, Runners up; CAPTAIN, Fiona Bray;

SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS, Runners up; CAPTAIN, Holly Preece.

UNDER-12 BOYS CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOLS LEAGUE, Third; CAPTAIN, Ellis Rosser.

ST JOHNS RACES (PORTHCAWL)

SHIELDS: UNDER-13 GIRLS, CAPTAIN: Annabel Curle; WINNERS.

UNDER-13 BOYS, CAPTAIN, Tom Owen; WINNERS.

COUNTY TEAM

SENIOR GIRLS, Sabrina James; MIDDLE GIRLS, Fiona Bray, Rachel Bradshaw; JUNIOR GIRLS, Annabel Curle, Rebecca John, Miriam Bennett; YEAR-7 GIRLS, Nadine James, Rebecca Thomas, Alice Tudor, Eleanor Bishop, Ella Emyr, Brooke Langton-Cryer; SENIOR BOYS, William Elliott; YEAR-7 BOYS, Ellis Rosser, Tom Lucas, Kristian Jones, Toby Walker, Huw Bennett.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

UNDER-17 GIRLS, Holly Preece; UNDER-15 GIRLS, Fiona Bray; UNDER-13 GIRLS, Annabel Curle, Jordan Carpenter; UNDER-17 BOYS , Elliot Mears; UNDER-13 BOYS, Tom Owen.

GYMNASTICS

COUNTY UNDER-12 BOYS, NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Runners up;

COUNTY UNDER-12 GIRLS NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS : Runners up;

COUNTY UNDER-14 BOYS NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Runners up;

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-12 GIRLS NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Runners up;

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-14 BOYS NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Runners up;

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-13 BOYS FLOOR AND VAULT CHAMPIONSHIPS: Winners; CAPTAIN, Elliot Mason;

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-13 GIRLS FLOOR AND VAULT CHAMPIONSHIPS: Third;

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-13 MIXED FLOOR AND VAULT CHAMPIONSHIPS: Winners; CAPTAIN: Tobias Swann.

BRITISH SCHOOLS UNDER-13 MIXED FLOOR AND VAULT CHAMPIONSHIPS: Fifth.

BRITISH SCHOOLS UNDER-13 BOYS FLOOR AND VAULT CHAMPIONSHIPS: Fifth.

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

UNDER-19, Dylan Layzell,
UNDER-13 Lili Evans

RUGBY

CUPS: SENIOR VALE OF GLAMORGAN 7 ASIDE, Winners; CAPTAIN: Tom Howson;

SENIOR LLANHARI 7 A SIDE, Winners; CAPTAIN: Tom Howson;

YEAR-10 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 15 A SIDE LEAGUE, Winners; CAPTAIN:Gus Rees-McPherson;

YEAR-9 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 15 A SIDE LEAGUE, Runners up;

YEAR-9 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 7 A SIDE, Winners; CAPTAIN, Harri Collier;

YEAR-10 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 7 A SIDE, Winners; CAPTAIN: Gus Rees-McPherson;

UNDER-13 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 7 A SIDE,Winners; CAPTAIN: Josef Gaughan;

UNDER-13 WELSH URDD 7 A SIDE,Runners up; CAPTAIN: Josef Gaughan;

UNDER-13 ROSSLYN PARK 7'S, Quarter finalists;

UNDER-13 VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS LEAGUE AND CUP, Winners; CAPTAIN: Josef Gaughan;

UNDER-12 VALE OF GLAMORGAN 7 A SIDE, Winners; CAPTAIN: Tom Trotman;

UNDER-12 VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS LEAGUE AND CUP, Winners; CAPTAIN: Tom Trotman.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

UNDER-18 BLUES, Reuben Tucker;

UNDER-16 BLUES, Gus Rees-McPherson, Lewys Hopkins.

HOCKEY

CUPS: YEAR-10 GIRLS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Finalists; CAPTAIN: Rachel Bradshaw; TEAM: Romy Killick, Katie Wynne, Samantha Logue, Laura Smith, Laura Howells, Sophie Gallaher, Lucie Johnson, Anna Leyshon, Coryn Sexton, Bronte Cowley, Beatrice Hawker, Liz Whitehouse, Mairi Boxall, Emma Dando.

YEAR-7 GIRLS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Finalists; CAPTAIN: Megan Macnamee; TEAM: Hannah Lee, Tilly Hall, Megan Thorne, Alice Tudor, Caitlin Jones, Evie Williams, Rosa Hatmann, Emily Davies, Hannah Lister-Sims, Ellie Eddy-Williams, Lilly Morris, Sian Dimblebee, Ellie Davies.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION: UNDER-18, Georgia Evans;

UNDER-16, Bethan Moorcraft, Rachel Bradshaw.

NETBALL

CUPS: YEAR-8 GIRLS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Finalists; CAPTAIN: Olivia Brown; TEAM: Joanna Wilkins, Hannah Woodward, Annabel Curle, Amy O'Donnel, Sarah Lewis, Georgia Lott, Eliza Smith, Lili Evans.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION: UNDER-14, Elizabeth Whitehouse; UNDER-16 (MOST IMPROVED PLAYER), Molly Williams.

FOOTBALL

CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOL REPRESENTATION: UNDER-13 BOYS, Joshua Thomas; UNDER-15 BOYS, Stuart Flemming.

RHONNDA CYNON TAFF SCHOOL REPRESENTATION: UNDER-16 BOYS, James Hendy.

BASKETBALL

UNDER-13 CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOLS LEAGUE, Winners; CAPTAIN: George Griffiths; TEAM: Josef Gaughan, Matthew Roberts, Sean Rowland, Tom Trotman, Harry Stubbington, Owen Ace, Tom Owen, Sam Owner, Alex Greaves, Declan Thomas, Lloyd Elms, Miles Jenkins.

CRICKET

UNDER-12 CITY OF CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOLS LEAGUE, Runners up.

UNDER-14 CITY OF CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOLS LEAGUE, winners; CAPTAIN: Sam Wood; TEAM: Todd Wilcox, Matthew Jacka, Joe Cotterill, Harri Collier, Harri Thomas, Chris Brace, Rhys Cogan, Tom Morgan, Jason Sami, Scott Laken, George Gibson, Sean Rowland, Jack Faulkner, George Francis, Connor Wyatt.

UNDER-15 GIRLS INDOOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Winners;

GIRLS INDOOR WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS, Winners;

GIRLS INDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS , Finalists; CAPTAIN: Lucie Johnson; TEAM: Rachel Bradshaw, Laura Howells, Romy Killick, Katie Wynne, Laura Smith, Rachel Jones, Liz Whitehouse, Mairi Boxall, Hannah Taylor.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

SENIOR WOMEN, Bethan Moorcraft; UNDER-15 GIRLS, Lucie Johnson; UNDER-13 BOYS, Oliver Pike, Jonathan Harvey; UNDER-14 BOYS, Todd Wilcox, Harri Collier, Matthew Jacka, Sam Wood, Chris Brace; UNDER-15 BOYS, Jack Davies, Will Antoni, Daniel Peters; UNDER-17 BOYS, Joel Gehler.

SWIMMING

WELSH SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS: UNDER-14 BOYS BACKSTROKE 100M, Cameron Jones, Silver;

UNDER-16 BOYS FREESTYLE 100M/200M, Joshua Thomas, Gold.

COUNTY SCHOOLS REPRESENTATION

UNDER-14, Cameron Jones;
UNDER-15, Matthew Sullivan;
UNDER-16, Joshua Thomas.

GOLF

CITY OF CARDIFF AND VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM WINNERS: UNDER- 19 BOYS, Huw Williams, Winner; Aled Clement, Runner up;

UNDER-19 GIRLS, Katie Bradbury, Winner.

CYCLING

UNDER-14 WELSH SCHOOLS CYCLE CROSS CHAMPIONSHIPS, Runners up; TEAM: Jake Morgan, Miles Jenkins, Geraint Boyd, Jordan Kennedy;

UNDER-14 WELSH SCHOOLS CYCLE CROSS CHAMPIONSHIPS,Winners; TEAM: Miriam Bennet, Maisie Beech;

UNDER-18 GIRLS BEST ALLROUNDER WELSH HILL CLIMB, Ruby Ellis.

SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS

UNDER-13 GIRLS CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – 4 LAP, Izzy Eddy-Williams, Runner-up;

STANDING TRIPLE JUMP, Annabel Curle, Winner;

UNDER-13 BOYS CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2 LAP, HIGH JUMP AND STANDING LONG JUMP, George Griffiths, Winner;

SHOT PUTT, Josef Gaughan, Winner;

2 LAP AND HIGH JUMP, Tom Trotman, Runner up;

6 LAP AND SPEED BOUNCE, Cameron Jones, Runner up;

UNDER-15 GIRLS CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS, SPEED BOUNCE AND OVERALL WINNER, Romy Killick, Winner;

STANDING LONG JUMP, Melissa Gooding, Runner up;

UNDER-15 BOYS, CARDIFF AND VALE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS; STANDING TRIPLE JUMP, Harri Hitchcock, Runner up;

UNDER-13 GIRLS, WELSH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS; STANDING LONG JUMP, Izzy Eddy-Williams, Winner;

UNDER-13 BOYS, WELSH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS – 4 LAP, Tom Trotman, Winner;

2 LAP AND HIGH JUMP, George Griffiths, Runner up;

UNDER-13 BOYS, BRITISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS; STANDING LONG JUMP (WELSH RECORD 2M68), George Griffiths, Winner.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

UNDER-13 GIRLS, Izzy Eddy-Williams; Annabel Curle;
UNDER-15 GIRLS, Romy Killick, Miriam Bennett, Katie Wynne, Caitlin Allin;
UNDER-13 BOYS, Tom Trotman, George Griffiths.

TRACK ATHLETICS

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIOR BOYS, Winners; CAPTAIN: Fred White; SENIOR GIRLS, Winners; CAPTAIN: Alice Thomas;

JUNIOR GIRLS, Winners, CAPTAIN: Miriam Bennet;

YEAR-7 CARDIFF AND VALE CHAMPIONSHIP, Winners; CAPTAIN: Rebecca Thomas;

YEAR-7 CARDIFF AND VALE CHAMPIONSHIP, Runners up; CAPTAIN: Tom Trotman.

COUNTY KNOCK-OUT CUP

UNDER-14 GIRLS AND UNDER-16 GIRLS - COUNTY A CUP, Finalists;

UNDER-14 BOYS COUNTY A CUP, Winners; CAPTAIN: George Griffiths.

WELSH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

UNDER-14 BOYS, Winners, CAPTAIN: George Griffiths, TEAM: Tom Trotman, Josef Gaughan, Joshua Thomas, Cameron Jones, Brad Rosser, Liam Martin, Harry Dowell-Bennett, Harry Stubbington.

CARDIFF AND THE VALE SCHOOLS ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION OVERALL HIGHEST POINTS, Winners; CAPTAIN: Oliver Trotman and Bethany Jarvis.

COUNTY CHAMPIONS

YEAR- 7 GIRLS,SHOT PUTT, Paige Williams; YEAR-7 GIRLS RELAY, Ellie Eddy-Williams, Rebecca Thomas, Brooke Lanton-Cryer, Eleanor Bishop; YEAR-7 BOYS 100M/HIGH JUMP/SHOT PUTT, Tom Trotman; YEAR-7 BOYS 75M HURDLES, Daniel Oddy; JUNIOR GIRLS 1.5KM WALK, Nancie Edwards; JUNIOR GIRLS HIGH JUMP, Annabel Curle; JUNIOR GIRLS DISCUS, Isobel Armour; JUNIOR BOYS SHOT PUTT, Joseph Gaughan; SENIOR GIRLS 400M HURDLES/LONG JUMP, Alice Thomas; SENIOR GIRLS 1500M, Elspeth Bisson; SENIOR GIRLS HIGH JUMP, Nicole Collier; SENIOR BOYS SHOT PUTT /HAMMER, Reuben Tucker; SENIOR BOYS-JAVELIN, Nick Davies; SENIOR BOYS RELAY, Fred White, Tom Harrison, Sam Bunkham, Oliver Trotman.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

JUNIOR BOYS COMBINED EVENTS, George Griffiths (ninth); JUNIOR BOYS COMBINED EVENTS, Scott Laken (tenth); JUNIOR BOYS SHOT PUTT, Josef Gaughan (third); JUNIOR GIRLS 1.5KM WALK, Nanci Edwards (third); JUNIOR GIRLS HIGH JUMP, Annabel Curle (third); JUNIOR GIRLS COMBINED EVENTS, Annabel Curle (fourth); JUNIOR GIRLS COMBINED EVENTS, Caitlin Allin (12th); JUNIOR GIRLS DISCUS, Isobel Armour (eighth); MIDDLE BOYS SHOT PUTT, Gus Rees-McPherson (fifth); SENIOR GIRLS HAMMER, Louise Edwards (fifth); SENIOR BOYS TRIPLE JUMP, Sam Bunkham (second); SENIOR BOYS COMBINED EVENTS, Sam Morgan (fourth).

BADMINTON

SOUTH WALES SCHOOL UNDER-16 BOYS, Runners up; CAPTAIN: Sidarth Devalia; TEAM: William Paiinter, Jack Scanlan, Rhys Mallows.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

UNDER-16, Rhys Mallows, Will Painter.
UNDER-18, Jack Scanlan.

SCHOOLS COUNTY SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS: UNDER-13 GIRLS, Ellie Cridland (Plate), Winner; UNDER-13 GIRLS, Jordan Carpenter, Winner; UNDER-15 GIRLS, Jessica Oliver, Runner up; UNDER-15 BOYS, William Painter, Runner up; UNDER-15 BOYS, Rhys Mallows, Winner; UNDER-18 GIRLS, Katie Bradbury, Runner up; UNDER-18 GIRLS, Jordan Guard, Winner; UNDER-18 BOYS; William Beech (Plate), Winner.

WELSH TOP SCHOOLS BADMINTON TOURNAMENT: UNDER-16 GIRLS, Katie Bradbury, Lydia James, Lois Palmer, Romy Killick; UNDER-16 BOYS, Sidarth Devalia, William Painter, Jack Scanlan, Rhys Mallows, runners up.

SKIING

SOUTH WALES ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM EVENT: GIRLS A TEAM, Alice Hales, Emily Hopkins, Sarah Williams, Megan Allman, Winners; BOYS A TEAM, Scott Sanger, Sam Stephens, George Spill, Williams Tinkler, winners; BOYS B TEAM, Matthew Goodlad, Jack Phillips, Jamie Griffiths, Harry Hitchcock, Runners up.

SOUTH WALES ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: NON-REGISTERED UNDER-13 GIRLS, Evie McGowen, Runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-15 GIRLS, Amy Oliver, Winner; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-15 GIRLS, Lowri Morgan, Runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-17 GIRLS, Amy Taylor, Runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-19 GIRLS, Megan Allman, Winner; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-13 BOYS, Ben Thomas, Winner; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-13 BOYS, Hywel Williams, Runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-15 BOYS, Nick Griffiths, Winner; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-15 BOYS, Huw Bennett, runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-17 BOYS, Jamie Griffiths, Winner; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-17 BOYS, Harri Hitchcock, runner up; NON-REGISTERED UNDER-19 BOYS, Jack Phillips, winner; OVERALL NON-REGISTERED, Megan Allman, Winner; OVERALL NON-REGISTERED, Jamie Griffiths, Winner; OVERALL NON-REGISTERED, Harri Hitchcock, Runner up;

REGISTERED UNDER-17 GIRLS, Emily Hopkins, Winner; REGISTERED UNDER-17 GIRLS, Sarah Williams, runner up; REGISTERED UNDER-19 BOYS, Scott Sanger, Winner; REGISTERED UNDER-19 BOYS, William Tinkler, Runner up;

OVERALL REGISTERED, Alice Hales, Runner up; OVERALL REGISTERED, Sam Stephens, Winner; OVERALL REGISTERED, Scott Sanger, Runner up.

WELSH SCHOOLS ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM EVENT: GIRLS A TEAM, Alice Hales, Hannah Taylor, Sarah Williams and Katie Howson, winners; BOYS A TEAM, Scott Sanger, William Tinkler, Sam Stephens and George Spill, winners.

WELSH SCHOOLS ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

NON–REGISTERED UNDER-15 GIRLS, Hannah Taylor, Runner up.

NON–REGISTERED UNDER-17 GIRLS, Katie Howson, runner up; Amy Taylor, winner.

REGISTERED UNDER-17 GIRLS, Sarah Williams, Under-17s winner, overall girls runner up;

REGISTERED UNDER-19 GIRLS, Alice Hales, winner;

NON–REGISTERED UNDERL-15 BOYS, Harri Hitchcock, runner up;

NON–REGISTERED UNDER-18 BOYS, Jack Phillips, runner up;

REGISTERED UNDER-18 BOYS, Scort Sanger, winner; William Tinkler, runner up

OVERALL REGISTERED, Sam Stephens, Winner; Scott Sanger, runner up;

BRITISH SCHOOLS ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM EVENT

BOYS TEAM CAPTAIN: Scott Sanger, Finalists; GIRLS TEAM CAPTAIN: Alice Hales, finalists.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 31)

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND-UP

Pupils collect their awards at ceremony

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30)

BRITISH SCHOOLS ARTIFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

UNDER-17 BOYS, Sam Stephens, Winner;

OVERALL REGISTERED, Sam Stephens, runner up.

BRITISH ALPINE SCHOOLS SNOW CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM EVENT

BOYS TEAM, Scott Sanger, George Spill, William Tinkler, Sam Stephens (Meiringen, Switzerland), third;

GIRLS TEAM, Emily Hopkins, Megan Allman, Sarah Williams (Flaine, France), eighth.

BRITISH ALPINE SCHOOLS SNOW CHAMPIONSHIPS INDIVIDUAL EVENT

JUNIOR 1, SLALOM, Sam Stephens, Runner up.

BRITISH SCHOOLS INDOOR SNOW CHAMPIONSHIPS CHILL FACTOR MANCHESTER

GIRLS TEAM, Alice Hales, Emily Hopkins, Megan Allman, Sarah Williams, third;

BOYS TEAM, Sam Stephens, George Spill, William Tinkler, Scott Sanger, fifth.

TENNIS

CARDIFF AND VALE SCHOOLS SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**:** Winners.

WALES AND SOUTH WEST ENGLAND REGIONAL TENNIS CUP : Runners up, CAPTAIN: Tomas Kamal, TEAM: Adam Wood, John Humphreys, David Humphreys, Theo Mann.

VALE SCHOOLS YEAR-10 CHAMPIONSHIPS, Winners; CAPTAIN: Tomos Kamal, TEAM: David Humphreys, Theo Mann, John Humphreys, Sean Boga-Lake, Michael Barnet.

CARDIFF & VALE SCHOOLS YEAR-7/8 LEAGUE: Winners; CAPTAIN: Matthew Kamal, TEAM: David Humphreys, Mattew Harper, Alex Greaves, Matthew Howells.

WELSH UNDER-14 CHAMPIONSHIPS DOUBLES CHAMPION: Jonathan Humphreys.

WELSH UNDER-14 CHAMPIONSHIPS DOUBLES, runner up: David Humphreys.

WELSH UNDER-14 CHAMPIONSHIPS SINGLES: runner up: Jonathan Humphreys.

SHOW JUMPING

BRITISH SCHOOLS NATIONAL SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS HICKSTEAD 2010: SENIORS: Fourth. TEAM: Louise Edwards, Bethan Allman, Joshua Rees.

JUNIORS: 12th. TEAM: Toby Owen, Nancie Edwards, Tatum Bolt.

PONY CLUB

SOUTH WALES AND BORDERS PONY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS: Winners.

BRITISH NATIONAL PONY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS: Finalists: TEAM: Bethany Jarvis, Ellie Dix, Ellie Medlicott.

KARTING

BRITISH MSA CADATE SUPER 1 CHAMPION (OVER 12 RACES): Tom Harvey;

5 X 60: TOP ATTENDEE FEMALE OF THE 5 X 60 SCHEME, Megan McNamee;

TOP ATTENDEE MALE OF THE 5 X 60 SCHEME: Rory Vizard.

INTERNAL SCHOOL CUPS PRESENTATION

SKIING

ALLIANCE CUP (SENIOR) Sam Stephens;

RICHARD LLEWELLYN(MIDDLES) Harri Hitchcock; PITMAN CUP (YEAR 8) Nick Griffiths.

RUGBY

THOMAS BROTHER (PLAYER OF THE YEAR) Reuben Tucker;

GARETH JONES MEMORIAL (OLD BOYS) Sean Latham.

CRICKET

RICHARD LLEWELLYN MEMORIAL, Will Antoni and Jack Davies.

ATHLETICS

VICTOR LUDORUM (BEST BOY ATHLETE), George Griffiths;

VICTRIX LUDORUM (BEST GIRL ATHLETE), Annabel Curle.

ENDEAVOUR

GWYN JAMES CUP (YEAR 11), BOYS, Alex Gordon; GIRLS, Molly Llewellyn, Amy Taylor.

SWANTEK GOLF

BOYS V STAFF V OLD BOYS, Bob Lewis (staff).

LOWER SCHOOL CUPS

GARDNER CUP (YEAR 8 RUGBY) Nick Griffiths;

GARY JACKSON (YEAR 8 ALL-ROUNDER) George Griffiths; KIM NEWTON (ATHLETICS) Izzy Eddy-Williams;

JAN CLUTTERBUCK (YEAR 8 ALL-ROUNDER) Annabel Curle.

INTER-HOUSE SHIELD

TUSKER (RED) CAPTAINS: Rhys Allin and Georgia Kemys, first; NASH (YELLOW) second, THAW (BLUE) third, DUNRAVEN (GREEN) fourth.

HUGH WILLIAMS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL SPORT

BOYS: Nicolas Davies and Mike Lloyd; GIRLS: Alice Thomas.

HUGH WILLIAMS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD (CHWARAE TEG): Steffan Kitchen.

INTERNATIONAL ROLL OF HONOUR

GYMNASTICS

WALES UNDER-13 SQUAD: Lili Evans.

DANCE

WALES YEAR-7 SQUAD: Megan Watson.

FOOTBALL

WALES UNDER-13 SQUAD: Joshua Thomas.

WALES UNDER-16 SQUAD: Coryn Sexton.

HOCKEY

WALES UNDER-16 SQUAD: Rachel Bradshaw.

BASKETBALL

WALES UNDER-18 SQUAD: Oliver Trotman.

CRICKET

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-14S: Todd Wilcox, Sam Wood.

WELSH COUNTIES U18 SQUAD: Nicola Davies.

WALES SENIOR WOMEN'S SQUAD: Bethan Moorcraft.

WALES UNDER-15 SQUAD: Lucie John son.

WALES UNDER-13 SQUAD: Laurie Thomas.

SKIING

WALES UNDER-19 SQUAD: Scott Sanger, Sam Stephens, George Spill, Alice Hales, Emily Hopkins.

TENNIS

WALES AND BRITISH UNDER-14 SQUAD: Matthew Kamal.

TABLE TENNIS

WALES UNDER-15 SQUAD: Romy Killick.

SQUASH

WALES UNDER-16 SQUAD: Katie Bradbury.

GOLF

WELSH CLUBS WOMEN/WELSH CLUBS UNDER-18S: Katie Bradbury.

WELSH SCHOOLS BOYS TEAM: Huw Williams.

BOXING

WELSH UNDER-16 CHAMPION BANTOM WEIGHT: Rufus Budd.

SWIMMING

WELSH SCHOOLS UNDER-16S: Josh Thomas.

SAILING

GREAT BRITAIN/WALES UNDER-15 SQUAD: Gareth Viney.

GREAT BRITAIN UNDER-18/WALES UNDER-18 420 SQUAD: Molly Frost.

FENCING

WALES UNDER-17 TEAM/UK GAMES: George Hawksworth.

HORSE RIDING

WELSH DRESSAGE UNDER-21 TEAM: Victoria Tamplin.

WELSH SHOW JUMPING UNDER-16 TEAM: Joshua Rees.

WELSH UNDER-15 MOUNTED GAMES: Tom Lucas.

JUDO

UNDER-16 BRITISH SQUAD: Jack Anderson.

CHESS

WALES UNDER-12 TEAM: Katie Treharne.

WALES UNDER-16 TEAM: Adam Howell, George Treharne.

TETRATHLON

WALES UNDER-21 TEAM: Jack Wilkins.

SURF LIFESAVING

WALES UNDER-19: Charles Grandfield.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Meet the greyhounds'

THERE is an opportunity to meet the greyhounds with Greyhound Welfare – this takes place informally on the streets outside Cowbridge Town Hall and its immediate area between 11am and 3pm on Saturday, October 9.

We are holding a street collection to raise funds for ex-racing greyhounds prior to re-homing, as well as meeting greyhounds and their owners, as people visit town for Saturday shopping.

Details of all money raised will, as always, be provided to The GEM. For further information, please telephone 01446 750663.

Valeways walks

WALKERS please note you may encounter stiles, uneven surfaces, steep sections or soft, wet ground on some walks. For further information, telephone the Valeways office 01446 749000.

October 10, 2pm, Woods Walk. Start – St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

October 11, 1.30pm, Around Rhoose. Start – Rhoose railway station.

October 13, 10.30am, Clapper Bridge and common. Start – Fox and Hounds car park, St Bride's Major.

Ryan follows his father Geraint's winning ways

Mr Robert Porter, captain Gino Cocco, winners Chris Rooney and Ryan Davies with Ross Farr.

THE monthly meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society was held last Thursday at the centenary-celebrating Rhondda Golf Club, kindly sponsored by Arthur John & Co of Cowbridge.

Ryan Davies, following on from his father Geraint's success in the Nipper Jewell Knock Out competition, continued in the same vein by easily winning the guest section with 38 stableford points.

Ryan also hit the longest drive of the day to win the 'James Hog Roast' sponsored prize, in addition to being nearest the pin on one of the par three holes.

Also successful on the par three holes were Alun Griffiths, Rees Roberts and Mark Rees, who finished runner-up in the guest section with 33 points.

Chris Rooney, with 32 points, won the members' section to win the Arthur John Cup, together with a pair of high quality green wellingtons – being just one of the many quality prizes supplied by generous sponsor Mr David John.

Runner-up with 29 points was Keith James, and Tony McCarthy finished third, also with the same score.

John Caines, the only single figure handicap golfer playing in the society, finished fourth with 28 points.

Islwyn Rees correctly guessed 52 golf balls would spend the night under new ownership to win the 'Premier Turf' sponsored lost ball competition, which raised £76 for the Macmillan Nurses charity.

The society was particularly pleased to welcome Mr Ross Farr and Mr Robert Porter to the evening's presentation ceremony. Ross was captain of the society in 1990, but sadly is no longer playing golf.

Local farmers enjoying three days of golf in Torbay, David Williams, Aubrey Thomas and Brian Jones.

Tim Jarvis, Martyn Popham, Clive Edwards with captain Gino.

Annual tour

A FEW weeks before visiting the Rhondda Golf Club, 20 members and guests spent a very enjoyable few days in the Torbay area competing for the David Evans (Agriculture) Ltd Trophy, played over 54 holes on three different courses.

Overall winner after an exciting final round at Thurlestone was Godfrey Lewis with 91 points, with Tony McCarthy finishing runner-up with 90 points.

Councillor Raymond Thomas finished third with 85 points, and Gwyn Thomas fourth with 84.

Results from the first day played at Dartmouth Golf & Country Club – winner Bryan Owen, with Keith Davies winning the guest section. Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Godfrey Lewis (2), Tony McCarthy and David Williams, with Raymond Thomas hitting the longest drive of the day.

Round two at Churston Golf Club was won by Keith Walker, with Chris Watson winning the guest section. Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Keith Walker, Keith Davies, Clive Edwards and Julian Kelly, who also hit the longest drive of the day.

Thurlestone Golf Club welcomed the society for the final round that Godfrey Lewis won with Jim Hayes winning the guest section. Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Clive Edwards, Martyn David and Julian Kelly with Raymond Thomas hitting the longest drive of the day.

TMcC

Captain Gino off at the first tee.

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS

● *WE welcome your sports reports, news and other items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL (Tel: 01446 774484)*

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06 **06 BMW X5 3.0D Sport Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In carbon black with black leather interior, communications pack, sat nav, Bluetooth phone prep, panoramic roof, front and rear parking sensors, only 59,800 miles.....**£19,995**

08 **58 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-Dr Hatchback.** In mighty blue with blue interior, air con, CD, central locking, colour coded bumpers, only 25,560 miles.....**£3,995**

08 **08 CHEVROLET Matiz** In pearl black with woven orange interior, air con, central locking, CD, rear ISOFIX anchorage points, front electric windows, service history, only 21,000 miles.....**£3,995**

04 **04 BMW X5 3.0D Sport Automatic 5-dr Station Wagon.** In titanium silver with black leather interior, sat nav, automatic air con, sunroof, multi cd, detachable tow bar, front and rear parking sensors, only 59,600 miles.....**£15,995**

PRESTIGE

08 **57 TOYOTA Prius 1.5/Hybrid T Spirit CVT Auto** in decuma grey met with full torino black leather, automatic air conditioning, sat nav, bluetooth telephone, reverse parking camera, cruise control, only 45,565 miles **£10,995**

07 **57 MERCEDES BENZ 3.5 SL350 Convertible 7G-Tronic.** In jasper blue with alpaca grey leather interior, Bose sound system, sat nav, 19" AMG alloy wheels, phone prep, heated seats, only 19,175 miles.....**£35,995**

07 **07 JAGUAR X K convertible.** Frost blue met with ivory sports leather interior, upgraded 20 inch setanta wheels, full colour satellite navigation, electric heated memory seats, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, bluetooth phone prep, only 12,621 miles, fsh, 1 owner.....**£35,500**

07 **07 BMW X3 2.5si SE Automatic** in platinum bronze metallic with sand beige leather interior, aluminum running boards, cd, front and rear parking sensors, heated seats, only 33,160 miles.....**£18,995**

06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 20,010 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers.....**£10,995**

06 **06 BMW X5 3.0D Sport Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In carbon black with black leather interior, communications pack, sat nav, Bluetooth phone prep, panoramic roof, front and rear parking sensors, only 59,800 miles.....**£19,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES BENZ M Class ML270 CDi Special Edition Automatic 5-Dr Station Wagon.** In black with grey suede interior, climate control, memory heated electric seat, roof rails, only 41,750 miles**£16,495**

05 **05 JAGUAR X-Type V6 Auto SE** in Jaguar British Racing Green met with oatmeal leather, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, alloy wheels, climate control, only 41,780 miles **£8,495**

04 **04 BMW X5 3.0D Sport Automatic 5-dr Station Wagon.** In titanium silver with black leather interior, sat nav, automatic air con, sunroof, multi cd, detachable tow bar, front and rear parking sensors, only 59,600 miles.....**£15,995**

04 **04 MERCEDES Benz E-Class 2.6 E240 Avantgarde 4-Dr Automatic Saloon.** In metallic black with half black leather interior, climate control, cruise control, electronic stability programme, CD, service history, only 59,470 miles....**£10,495**

03 **03 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318Ci SE Convertible.** In light yellow metallic, with full black leather interior, electric heated seats with memory, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, 18" Msport alloy wheels, only 55,615 miles ...**£9,995**

03 **03 BMW 3.0 330 Ci convertible.** In topaz blue with montana grey leather, rear parking sensors, multi cd, alloy wheels, heated seats, only 55,200 miles **£9,995**

02 **52 JAGUAR XKR 4.2 Automatic 2-Door Coupe.** In anthracite black with red/black leather interior, cruise control, 18" alloy wheels, climate control, traction control system, only 86,700 miles.....**£14,995**

02 **02 JAGUAR X-type 2.5 V6 Automatic Sport 4-dr Saloon.** In Anthracite Black with Sand sport leather interior, reverse park control, automatic climate control, cruise control, privacy glass, colour coded bumpers, only 70,080 miles ..**£4,995**

02 **51 MERCEDES BENZ C-Class 2.0 C180 Sport Coupe** in brilliant silver met with Ascot interior, dual zone climate control, cruise control, auto lights, cd, alloy wheels, only 70,647 miles.....**£6,995**

01 **51 MERCEDES BENZ CLK 2.0 Kompressor Avantgarde semi automatic 2-dr coupe.** In quartz blue with grey leather interior, climate control, front fogs, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 58,800 miles **£5,495**

00 **W MERCEDES Benz M Class 3.2 ML320 Auto Station Wagon** in azurite blue with full anthracite leather, electric seats, air con, chrome side steps, alloy wheels, only 92,500 miles.....**£5,459**

SPORTS

09 **59 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 16v Turbo SRi (Nav)** In lightning silver metallic with Vitesse interior, full colour navigation, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, phone prep, only 14,500 miles.....**£13,995**

09 **09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite** In graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles.....**£14,495**

09 **58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SRi Sporthatch.** In technical grey met with silver alpha interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, rear spoiler, trip computer, only 26,770 miles **£9,995**

07 **56 VOLKSWAGEN EOS 2.0 FSi 2-Dr Cabriolet.** In midnight blue with titanium black leather interior, winter pack, heated seats, CD, 17" Le Mans alloy wheels, traction control system, service history, only 45,120 miles.....**£11,995**

07 **07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDi DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback.** In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 38,598 miles.....**£12,795**

06 **56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSi (170ps) FT 5-dr** in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracite interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles **£10,995**

06 **56 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sport 5-Dr Sportback.** In Avus silver with matrix black cloth, climate control, alloy wheels, CD, ISOFIX anchorage point, ABS, only 56,300 miles.....**£10,495**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£9,995**

05 **55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible.** In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles.....**£5,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spd** in sable grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDi (100ps) Sport 5-dr** in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive** in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles.....**£3,995**

03 **53 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225 bhp)** in raven black met with full authentic baseball leather interior, heated seats, BOSE stereo upgrade, climate control, alloy wheels, trip computer, only 59,200 miles, wind deflector and roof cover **£10,995**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles.....**£4,495**

02 **02 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In silver with special edition grey leather interior, Bose sound system, heated seats, alloy wheels, climate control, only 70,620 miles.....**£8,995**

02 **02 MG ZS 2.5 180.** In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles.....**£2,795**

00 **W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-Door Saloon.** In Strathcarn blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric sunroof, air con, only 57,280 miles.....**£4,495**

FAMILY

08 **08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr** in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles **£8,995**

08 **08 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 16v Club (a/c) 5-dr hatchback.** In steel silver with atlanta blue interior, air con, cd, electric windows, abs, colour coded bunpers, only 12,670 miles **£6,795**

07 **57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr AWD.** In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles ..**£15,995**

07 **57 TOYOTA Auris 1.6 VVT-iTR 5-dr hatchback.** In decuma grey with lava black interior, air con, alloy wheels, cd, colour coded bumpers, isofix, service history, only 38,710 miles.....**£7,695**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 RENAULT Megane 1.5 dci 106 Dynamique 5-dr 6 speed estate.** In mercury silver with dark carbon interior, electric panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 59,200 miles.....**£6,995**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8VVT (140PS) 5-dr Hatchback** in metro blue with Duke/Elba charcoal interior, air con, alloy wheels, cruisecontrol, alarm, only 27,400 miles.....**£6,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi Diesel 5-dr Hatchback.** In black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 61,199 miles, quick clean screen **£6,995**

06 **06 FORD Mondeo 2.0TDCi 115 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with charcoal interior, rear parking sensors, cd, quickclear windscreen, a/con, only 45,980 miles.....**£5,995**

06 **06 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr Hatchback** in psychedelic azure blue met wth drop grey interior, colour coded bumpers, cityy steering, electric windows, only 39,289 miles **£4,495**

05 **05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi** in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles.....**£6,495**

05 **05 NISSAN Primera S 2.2 DCi 138 5-Dr Hatchback.** In dark blue with grey interior, reversing camera, climate control, body coloured bumpers, CD, only 59,900 miles **£3,995**

04 **54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles.....**£4,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles.....**£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack, air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloys, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles **£4,395**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Ghia 5-Dr Hatchback.** In moon dust silver with dark interior, alloy wheels, quick clear windscreen, CD, colour coded bumpers, rear parking sensors, only 48,120 miles **£3,995**

03 **03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr** in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles **£4,995**

02 **51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr.** In Atlantis blue metallic with hocney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 35,590 miles **£2,995**

01 **51 MERCEDES Benz A-Class 1.4 A140 Avantguard 5-dr hatchback.** In red with slate grey half leather/cloth interior, cd, ipod connection, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 47,790 miles.....**£3,795**

01 **Y LANDROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 3-dr hard top** in Blenheim silver with smokestone interior, alarm, alloy wheels, air con, cd, only 68,220 miles **£2,995**

SMALL

09 **09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles.....**£10,995**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles **£7,995**

08 **58 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-Dr Hatchback.** In mighty blue with blue interior, air con, CD, central locking, colour coded bumpers, only 25,560 miles **£3,995**

08 **08 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Blue (Limited Edition) 5-Door Hatchback.** In panther black with Koyoto blue interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, front fog lights, electric windows, only 20,317 miles.....**£6,495**

08 **08 FORD KA Studio.** In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles.....**£4,995**

08 **08 CHEVROLET Matiz** In pearl black with woven orange interior, air con, central locking, CD, rear ISOFIX anchorage points, front electric windows, service history, only 21,000 miles.....**£3,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic.** In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles.....**£6,495**

06 **56 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v SXi+ 3-Dr Hatchback.** In sapphire black with splice/leather black interior, alloy wheels, privacy glass, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 52,320 miles **£3,995**

05 **55 SMART For Four, Black Edition 1.1 5-dr Hatchback.** In black with dark interior, colour coded bumpers, cd, c/l, alarm and immobiliser, only 23,440 miles.....**£3,995**

05 **55 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0i 12v Life 3-Dr Hatchback.** In purple spell with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, power steering, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 29,820 miles **£3,495**

04 **54 MINI 1.6 Cooper (Pepper pack) 3-dr Hatchback.** In purple with white roof, black interior, 8 spoke alloy wheels, a/c, cd, front fogs, e/front windows, only 39,760 miles.....**£7,995**

04 **53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Active 3-dr Hatchback.** In ultra blue with points charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD and alloy wheels, only 62,825 miles.....**£3,195**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.6 Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** Magnum grey with streetline dark interior, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, electric windows, alloy wheels, cd, only 40,955 miles.....**£3,895**

03 **53 NISSAN Micra 1.2 S 3-Dr Hatchback.** In silver with grey interior, remote central locking, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 65,000 miles **£2,995**

03 **03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-dr Hatchback.** In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 58,105 miles **£3,095**

02 **52 RENAULT Clio 1.2 QuickShift Auto** in nautical blue with voile interior, remote central locking, sunroof, colour coded bumpers, cd, only 58,800 miles.....**£2,995**

02 **51 ALFA ROMEO 1.6 T-Spark Lusso 3-dr Hatchback** in Alfa red with elegant velour interior, alloy wheels, air conditioning, I-pod connection, colour coded bumpers, only 79,085 miles.....**£2,995**

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TRACK AND FIELD STARS RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS AT CARDIFF & VALE SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING

Words: PETE MORRIS
Pictures: IAN DIXON

CURTIS MATTHEWS was the only Vale athlete to receive one of the three major individual awards at the end-of-season Cardiff & The Vale of Glamorgan Schools' Track & Field Presentation Evening.

At a packed Junior Hall at Cardiff High School, the Barry & Vale Harrier, who, in 2009, received the Capitol Shopping Centre Endeavour Cup, was awarded the more prestigious Bob Cypher trophy to mark another excellent summer of progress.

Still eligible as an international u20 athlete in 2011, it will be interesting to see what progress the former Barry Comprehensive product makes on a pathway which, hopefully, will lead on to membership of Team Wales at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Three other Vale pupils were mentioned as young contenders for the Frank Ireland Cup for the Outstanding Athlete, an award which was presented to year 10 Ffion Bodilly (Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf) for her hat trick of u17 high jump victories at the Aviva Welsh Schools' championships, the Aviva SIAB u17 international and the Sainsbury's UK School Games.

The trio included two exciting year 9 pupils – the Stanwell year 9 duo of Tom Williams (sprinter/long jump) and Matteo Holmes (thrower) – both of whom made their mark in the u15 age group at Welsh level this summer. With the Aviva 2011 SIAB u17 track & field international scheduled to be held at the Cardiff International Sports Stadium on July 16th, it will be interesting to see if the duo can force their way into the Welsh Schools' team in their first summer in the age group.

Cowbridge year 8 George Griffiths, a pupil with another year to come as an u15, was the third member of the trio. He created a little piece of history at the Aviva UK Sportshall Finals in March by becoming the first ever Cardiff & the Vale Schools pupil to win an individual title, claiming the u13 boys' standing long jump title with a new Welsh best of 2.68 metres.

A total of 187 pupils from 30 schools and colleges across Cardiff and the Vale were listed on the programme as due to receive awards.

Cowbridge was the top Vale school, receiving five championship and cup trophies, and gaining the special trophy for the overall points awarded in championships.

Sadly, there were no u20 Welsh Schools international or representative matches in 2010 but three Vale pupils, all from St Cyres – year 10 Matthew Roan and year 11s Bethan Daw and Ben Harding - received plaques to mark their international selection. For Bethan, that award completed an international double as she added an appearance in the 1500 metres at the Aviva SIAB u17 track & field international at Glasgow to her run in March at the Aviva SIAB u17 cross-country international at Truro.

In bringing the evening to an end, Rob Glaves (St Cyres), the association's chairman, took the opportunity to thank key individuals and groups for their contribution to another successful summer. Included in his list were: the pupils who have taken part in activities, the staff and schools who have supported events, the schools which have organised events, the qualified officials who have assisted at fixtures, the parents of athletes, Mr Ian Dixon (photographer), Mr Ted Nicholson (British Red Cross), the staff of the Vale Council and Jenner Park, the Vale of Glamorgan Council for its grant aid, track & field and sportshall team managers including Miss Daniella Woolf (Llantwit), Mrs Melissa Hunter (Stanwell), Miss Alisa Cullen (St Cyres), and Mr Rhys Beynon (Bro Morgannwg), and the newspapers which have reported on our events – including the Glamorgan GEM.

Awards made to Vale schools and pupils: CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Capitol Shopping Centre Trophies – Senior (Under 20) - held at Leckwith on Tuesday, April 27; Senior Boys: Cowbridge 404.5; Senior Girls: Cowbridge 405.

Middle (Under 17) – held at Leckwith on Thursday, April 29; Middle Boys: Bro Morgannwg 357; Middle Girls: Bro Morgannwg 223.5; Junior (Under 15) - held at Leckwith on Thursday, May 27; Junior Girls: Cowbridge 176.

Year 7 (Under 13) - held at Jenner Park on Friday, June 25; Year 7 Girls: Cowbridge 166.

AWARDS TO INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS – 100 pupils

SENIOR BOYS - 13
Jamie Sexton Barry College 100 11.4
Curtis Mathews Barry Comp HJ, LJ, DT, Pent 1.87, 6.52, 39.41, 2883 BP, Nick Davies Cowbridge JT 35.61, Reuben Tucker Cowbridge SP, HT 11.25, 22.80, Darren Jones Llantwit 2000 Sc 7:11.0, James Wiltshire St Cyres 400 52.1, Owen Haswell Stanwell 1500 4:24.9.

SENIOR GIRLS - 11
Elinor Lewis Bro Morgannwg 100H, TJ 18.3, 9.62, Savannah Taylor Bro Morgannwg Pent 1944 BP, Alice Thomas Cowbridge 400H, LJ 1:31.6, 4.18, Elspeth Bisson Cowbridge 1500 6:57.2, Nicole Collier Cowbridge HJ 1.35, Sian Balchin Kings Monkton DT, JT 24.20, 27.12, Ayla Phillips Llantwit SP, HT 9.41, 24.94, Cerri-Anne Santos St Cyres 3000 13:48.7.

MIDDLE BOYS - 15
Callam Barrie Barry Comp 3000 10:30.5, Keiron Laity Bro Morgannwg TJ 11.48, Scott Hewins Llantwit JT 43.25, Ben Harding St Cyres SP 13.70.

MIDDLE GIRLS - 16
Leanne Kelland Bro Morgannwg HT 23.37, Lia Thomas Bro Morgannwg TJ 8.58, Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 300 46.9, Jessica Richards Llantwit SP 7.50, Bethan Daw St Cyres 1500 4:56.2, Caitlin Bryant The Cathedral 3000 11:40.1, Eloise Laity Westbourne 200 27.1.

JUNIOR BOYS - 14
Matthew Collins Barry Comp 800 2:18.2, Ieuan Orton Bro Morgannwg HJ 1.60, George Griffiths Cowbridge LJ 5.54, Joe Gaughan Cowbridge SP 10.84, Ben Brown Llantwit 1500 Walk 9:02.4, Matteo Holmes Stanwell DT, HT, JT 26.88, 34.89, 40.89.

JUNIOR GIRLS – 12
Catrin Cosier Bryn Hafren 100 14.2, Annabel Curle Cowbridge HJ 1.45, Isabelle Armour Cowbridge DT 19.22, Nancie Edwards Cowbridge 1500 Walk 9:46.9, Lucy Tarrant Llantwit 800 2:32.8, Megan Osborne Llantwit 1500 5:12.2, Danielle Dakin-Weston Llantwit JT 21.33.

YEAR 7 BOYS - 8
Dan Oddy Cowbridge 75H 13.4, Tom Trotman Cowbridge 100, HJ, SP 12.8, 1.53 CBP, 10.04, Richard Dangerfield Llantwit JT 34.92.

YEAR 7 GIRLS – 11
Paige Williams Cowbridge SP 7.65, Jen Watt St Richard Gwyn LJ 4.24, Ana Mirza-Davies Stanwell 800 2:48.3.

AWARDS TO 2010 SPORTSHALL WINNERS

U13 BOYS (6) held at Whitchurch Lower on Jan 20 and Feb 9 – George Griffiths Cowbridge 2 Laps, SLJ, HJ 21.1, 2.59, 1.50, Joe Gaughan Cowbridge Shot 10.30.

U13 GIRLS (7) held at Whitchurch Lower on Wednesday, Feb 9 – Annabel Curle Cowbridge Standing TJ 5.76.

U15 held at Whitchurch Lower on Thursday, January 28 – U15 GIRLS (6) Romy Killick Cowbridge SB, Overall Pts 79, 438.

Certificates to athletes who competed at the Welsh Sportshall Finals, at Cwmbran Stadium, March 1 – U13 Boys – Team 5th - 544.

George Griffiths Cowbridge 2 Laps, High Jump 24.6, 1.50m, Tom Trotman Cowbridge 4 Laps, High Jump 53.5, 1.35m.

U13 Girls – Team 3rd - 537.

Izzy Eddy-Williams Cowbridge 4 Laps, Standing LJ 59.0, 2.27m, Annabel Curle Cowbridge Standing TJ 5.72m.

U15 Girls – Team 4th - 490.

Romy Killick Cowbridge 2L, SLJ, SB 26.5, 2.17, 72, Caitlin Allin Cowbridge 2L, VJ, SB 26.5, 51, 70, Katie Wynne Cowbridge 4L, VJ, SP 63.0, 48, 6.79, Miriam Bennett Cowbridge 4L, SLJ, SP 62.2, 1.73, 5.40.

Certificate to athlete who competed at the UK Sportshall Finals, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, March 22 – U13 Boys – Wild Card George Griffiths Cowbridge SLJ 1st – 2.68m.

TEAM AWARDS at Senior Cup Final, Leckwith on April 21 – Under 20 Girls: Bro Morgannwg 113.

TEAM AWARDS at A Cup Final, at Leckwith on June 17 – Under 16 Girls: Llantwit 227. Under 14 Boys: Cowbridge 301.

AWARD OF TRACK AND FIELD COLOURS to athletes who competed at the Welsh Schools' Championships

(a) Combined Events at Newport on June 26 – Senior Boys – U20 – (JT, LJ, 100, SP, 1000) – 2; 2nd - 3891, Sam Morgan Cowbridge 4th - 1661, Senior Girls – U20 – (SP, JT, 100, LJ, 1500) – 3; 1st – 4830, Elinor Lewis Bro Morgannwg 3rd - 2431, Savannah Taylor Bro Morgannwg 6th - 1903, Middle Boys – U17 – (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 800) – 7; 1st - 5427, Mathew Roan St Cyres dnf, Middle Girls – U17 – (HJ, LJ, 80H, SP, 800) – 7; 3rd - 3929, Maisie Mathews Bro Morgannwg 16th - 1528, Brenna Organ Bryn Hafren 13th - 1646, Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 8th - 2036, Sarah Herbert Bryn Hafren 11th - 1893, Chloe Phillips Llantwit Major 14th - 1646, Emma Worrall Llantwit Major 12th - 1781.

Junior Boys – U15 – (80H, SP, HJ, LJ, 800) – 11; 1st - 4397 Mathew Collins Barry Comp 5th - 2191, Harri Williams Bro Morgannwg 11th - 1919 Jacob Briscombe Bro Morgannwg 8th - 1993, George Griffiths Cowbridge 9th - 1978, Scott Laken Cowbridge 10th - 1944, Tom Williams Stanwell 7th - 2000.

Junior Girls – U15 - (LJ, 75H, SP, HJ, 800) – 8; 3rd - 4233 Annabel Curle Cowbridge 4th - 2330, Caitlin Allin Cowbridge 12th - 1903, Rachel Cosier Bryn Hafren 17th - 1735, Catrin Cosier Bryn Hafren 20th - 1625, Carys Knapman Bryn Hafren 21st – 1572.

(b) National Championships at Brecon on July 3 – Senior Boys – 2nd - 114, Curtis Mathews Barry HJ, 4th - 1.80; LJ 2nd - 6.43/1.7; DT 1st - 45.44, Bradley Cole Barry College DT 8th - 26.75; HT 4th - 35.55; JT 3rd - 40.97, Jamie Sexton Barry College 100 Ht 4th - 11.47; 200 4th - 22.90, Joseff Whitmarsh-Knight Bro Morgannwg 1500 4th - 4:36.32, Sam Bunkham Cowbridge TJ 2nd - 11.79/2.2, Darren Jones Llantwit 2000 Sc 3rd - 7:01.59, James Wiltshire St Cyres 200 Ht 4th - 23.18; 400 3rd - 53.96, Tom Phillips Stanwell 400H 4th - 60.16.

Senior Girls – 2nd - 90 Elinor Lewis Bro Morgannwg 100H, 2nd - 15.08; PV 2= - 3.40; TJ 4th - 9.92/3.1, Lucy Mitchell Bryn Hafren DT 7th - 19.89, Ayla Phillips Llantwit Major SP 2nd - 9.94; HT 2nd - 25.22.

Middle Boys – 2nd - 106 Arran Reid Barry 4x100 2nd - 45.83, Callam Barrie Barry 3000 7th - 10:15.67, Gus McPherson Cowbridge SP 5th - 10.67

Middle Girls – 5th – 80 Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 300 7th - 45.18, Megan Thomas Bro Morgannwg TJ 5th - 9.01/2.3, Jessica Richards Llantwit Major SP 6th - 7.31, Bethan Daw St Cyres 1500 2nd - 5:03.99, Caitlin Bryant The Cathedral 3000 5th - 11:48.39.

Junior Boys – 1st – 95 Matthew Collins Barry Comp 800 2 2:08.76, Tom Williams Stanwell 100, 1st - 11.33/3.4, Tom Williams Stanwell LJ 1st - 5.94/2.3. Joe Gaughan Cowbridge SP 3rd - 11.31, Matteo Holmes Stanwell HT 2nd - 37.02, Matteo Holmes Stanwell JT 2nd - 38.39.

Junior Girls – 3rd = – 57 Catrin Cosier Bryn Hafren 100 7th - 13.71/2.7, Annabel Curle Cowbridge HJ 3rd - 1.45, Isobel Armour Cowbridge DT 8th - 17.66, Danielle Dakin-Weston Llantwit JT 5th - 23.92

Lucy Tarrant Llantwit 800 4th - 2:27.84, Megan Osborne Llantwit 1500 6th - 5:18.08.

TEAM WINNERS at the Welsh Schools' Combined Events Championships at Newport on 26/06/10

(a) Senior Girls Captain: Elinor Lewis Bro Morgannwg.

TEAM WINNERS at the Welsh Schools' National Championships at Brecon on 04/07/09.

(a) Junior Boys Captain: Tom Williams Stanwell.

AWARD TO ATHLETES WHO GAINED INTERNATIONAL SELECTION

(a) For Welsh Schools at the SIAB Combined Events International at Glasgow, Scotland – 13 December, 2008

Under 16 Boys – Matthew Roan St Cyres 12th - 2604.

(c) For Welsh Schools at the SIAB u17 track and field international held at Scotstoun, Glasgow on July 17.

Under 17 Boys – Ben Harding St Cyres Shot 8th – 12.88.

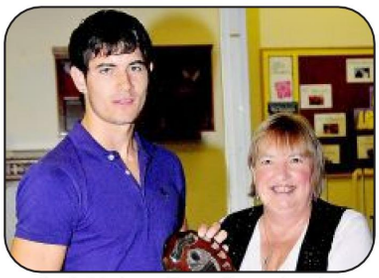
Under 17 Girls – Bethan Daw St Cyres 1500 6th – 4:55.25.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The School gaining most points in the Championships: Cowbridge

The Bob Cypher Award: Curtis Mathews.

Champions received a certificate to mark their success. Darren Jones (Llantwit), Oliver Jefferies (Cardiff High) and Curtis Mathews (Barry) were three of the senior champions.



Curtis Mathews (Barry Comprehensive) received the Bob Cypher trophy from Mrs Kath Elias, president of the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan schools.

BARRY RFC RUGBY ROUND-UP

Five-star win for second team

PONTYCLUN 2nd XV	**v**
BARRY 2nd XV	

BARRY 2nd XV produced a stunning five-star away performance to storm to the top of the league.

Despite missing several players due to first team call-up, injuries and unavailability, Barry still managed to field a strong side due to the depth of their squad.

Joel Williams, replacing the injured former Maltese international John Dimond, repaid the selectors with a try, Thomas Haigh was colossal in the tight and chipped in with two tries of his own, while Cieran Thomas and Grantley Harris also crossed for the visitors.

Adam Lee added 15 points with the boot to seal a superb victory against the former league leaders.

Barry 2nd XV are back at home next weekend against Llanishen.

Team: Lee; Alex Evans, Harris, Alyn Evans, Poole; J Williams, Graham; Elsworth, Hosking, Morgan; D Williams, Haigh; Thomas, Rendall, Myers. Subs used: Jones, R Williams, Turnbull. Man-of-the-match: Haigh.

BARRIANS	**21**
OLD PENARTHIANS 2nd XV	**22**

FOR the first time in recent memory, Barry RFC managed to field a third side, the Barrians, with their opposition being neighbours Old Penarthians 2nd XV.

With a host of players unavailable or injured, newly appointed player-manager Ken Chow was forced to recall several veterans and hand out debuts to no less than six players on the day.

With such a hastily assembled side, it was no surprise to see the team struggle early on, as the visitors pounced upon the uncertainty in defence to score two tries in quick succession to open up a 10-point lead.

Barrians refused to buckle, however, and soon came back into the game.

With only one of the backs – the captain Chow – having any form of competitive rugby in the last 18 months, it was unsurprising to see Barry utilising its pack, with James Sullivan instrumental in the scrum and ball carrying, while Andy Moffat and Tobin were peerless in the line-out.

Chow, and the veterans Gerwyn Pugh and Stavros, made incisive, darting runs, and debutant Ricky Hellyar was running the game at outside-half, but it was ultimately the powerful front eight which set up a chance for Pugh to dive over – he converted the try himself.

With the momentum back with the home side, Stavros spread the ball out wide for Michael Jones to sprint half the length of the pitch to ground under the posts, although the pass was suspiciously forward. Pugh added the extras.

At half-time the home spirits were high, but things then took an interesting turn as the referee played for the Old Penarthians in the second half, with one of the visiting players turning official!

After Matthew Tobin was penalised in front of the posts, the Old Penarthians drove through to score to swing the momentum once more.

The visitors dominated the contact area, and seemingly put the game out of the home side's reach when they scored their fourth try to make it 14-22.

Pugh, however, produced another trademark dash to beat the visiting defence to cap a remarkable personal performance, but ultimately the clock defeated the home side and they lost out by one point. Final score: 21-22.

All credit must go to all the players who turned up on the day to make the Barrians a reality.

Team: Rye; Jones, Stavros, Thomas, Chow (c); Pugh, Hellyar; Houldey, Bergeron, Sullivan; Lakin, Lundy; Manley, Moffat, Tobin. Subs used: Hargodan, James, Bounds. Subs not used: Dutton. Man-of-the-match: Pugh. **KC**

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'GOLF WATCH' aims to tackle course security

Alan Hughes, chief executive of Southerndown golf Club (left) pictured at the launch of Golf Watch with PCSO Rhiannon Harris and Matt Davies of Safer Vale.

WITH Ryder Cup fever having gripped south Wales this week, Safer Vale has taken the opportunity to offer some helpful safety tips to local golfers.

The Golf Watch initiative is aimed at raising golfers' awareness of security on the golf course and is being rolled out at courses throughout the Vale, starting at Southerndown Golf Club, overlooking the Bristol Channel.

PCSO Rhiannon Harris, from Safer Vale, explained: "Golf Watch is an initiative set up to help golf clubs guard against theft, increase the chance of recovering stolen property and strengthen relationships between the club and the Safer Vale Partnership.

"Similar to Neighbourhood Watch, it relies on reporting incidents and circulating information among members."

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Spark 1.0+ 5dr: Urban - 42.8 (6.6), Extra-urban - 67.3 (4.2), Combined - 55.4 (5.1). CO_2 emissions 119g/km. Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Cruze 1.6 S 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO_2 emissions 159g/km.

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175/70TR14	Bridgestone B250	£59.46	£112	£210	175/70TR14	Avon ZT5	£47.96	£92	£175	175/70TR14	Tryal	£33.60	£62	£115
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185/65HR14	Bridgestone B250	£65.49	£120	£230	185/65HR14	Avon ZV3	£52.39	£98	£190	185/65HR14	Tryal	£35.22	£67	£130
185/65HR15	Bridgestone ER300	£73.60	£132	£255	185/65HR15	Avon ZV3	£56.12	£105	£200	185/65HR15	Tryal	£37.25	£70	£135
195/65HR15	Bridgestone B250	£62.16	£108	£205	195/65HR15	Avon ZV3	£52.52	£100	£190	195/65HR15	Tryal	£38.47	£73	£140

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GEM sport

RAVENS GET THE EDGE OVER ATHLETIC IN 'BATTLE OF BRIDGEND'!

Bridgend Ravens RFC	**22**
Bridgend Athletic RFC	**13**

FOLLOWING the torrential downpour on the Friday, all concerned were delighted that the Brewery Field had come through unscathed and this, the third of the season's borough derbies, was able to go ahead in conditions that were not far from ideal.

The Ravens are riding high in Division 1 and are unbeaten, with only a couple of bonus points separating them from top of the table Narberth.

The Athletic's only league victory came against Maesteg in the opening fixture of the campaign, and as has been well documented in these pages over the last few weeks, it is a case of 'what might have been' for the Ath, but nevertheless, they have much to do to get back on the winning track.

The Ravens kicked off in front of a good sized, vociferous crowd and had much the better of the early exchanges, although Athletic fly-half Tom Cole's long range attempt to open the scoring just missed.

As the Ravens continued to progress downfield, prop Matthew Norman inexplicably flopped on top of a ruck to earn 10 minutes in the sin-bin and some back chat marched them back a further 10 metres. This gave Ravens No 10 Dan Griffiths an easy kick to open the scoring - and he duly obliged.

The 14 men of the visitors woke up and captain Sean Williams led his troops from the front, ably supported by Matthew Hillman and Tom Penry-Ellis alongside the ever industrious hooker Simon Mustoe.

It was the home team that showed great enterprise as they struck the ball against the head at a scrum 10 metres from their own line. Slick handling and purposeful running almost resulted in a try, only for Gareth Howells' scoring pass to Grant Epton to be deemed forward.

There followed some cut and thrust but the Ravens were able to control more of the possession as their 8 outgunned the Ath's 7 at scrum time, despite the manful efforts of young Rod Apsee and Wayne Fooks – Norman's replacement.

It wasn't long before the desperate Athletic defence conceded a penalty for offside, which Griffiths again sent over.

When the Athletic were restored to full strength they carried the attack back to their hosts. Sean Williams transferred the ball to wing Marc Bennett, who passed to Rod Apsee.

With their line under pressure, veteran flanker, and Ravens coach, Steve Tandy killed the ball and was shown the yellow card.

Cole stepped up to reduce the arrears to 3 points, but this was soon cancelled out by another penalty by Griffiths when the Athletic were again caught offside in defence.

As first half injury time ground on, the Athletic were back on the attack. Mustoe was held up just short, but the ball was recycled to Jamie Doherty, and the quick ball was spun out , but Cole's pass just dropped at centre Hywel Davies' feet and the overlap was wasted.

Fortunately the error was not to prove costly as the very next play saw Ravens scrum-half, former Ath youth player Tom Habberfield, throw a wild pass in-field. The Athletic back-row pounced and strong running by Luke Hathaway was followed by a well-timed pass to Rob Coles, who raced in for the try.

Tom Cole converted from wide-out to give the visitors a one point lead at half-time.

The second half opened with the visitors once more on the attack, making use of some good tactical kicking by Cole and scrum-half Aled Thomas to turn their opponents and force them into making mistakes.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

Marc Bennett breaks the defensive line.

Athletic Captain Sean Wiliams led by example throughout.

Porthcawl pushed, but win takes them third

PORTHCAWL	**26**
BIRCHGROVE	**20**

PORTHCAWL secured their first home win of the campaign with a similar performance to the one at Bridgend Sports the week before - starting strongly and surviving an opposition comeback.

The Seaweeds got off to a good start when Joe Gallafant, making a start at outside-half with brother Wil out injured, kicked a penalty for 3-nil.

The visitors, with the smaller yet more mobile of the two packs, struck back with an unconverted try as the home pack found themselves retreating at a scrum for 3-5.

Gallafant got his second penalty to restore the home lead before Birchgrove replied with a similar score at 6-8.

The match was a competitive affair with Porthcawl trying to move the ball wide, as opposed to the Birchgrove approach of attacking the narrow channels, and both sides found it difficult to find the vital breaks in midfield.

However, Porthcawl eventually got it when the home eight surged strongly upfield and Greg Drane delayed his pass beautifully to put full-back Ollie Jones through a gaping hole to cross under the posts.

Gallafant converted for 13-8 and then proceeded to add another penalty as Porthcawl's composure started to improve. When Gallafant added his third penalty for 19-8 at the halfway point, it looked as if Porthcawl were in full control.

The second half started better for Birchgrove and they stunned the home crowd by drawing first blood with a converted try to narrow the gap to just four points.

Porthcawl's outstanding defence kept Birchgrove at bay and as the visitors continued to push forward, any mistake could prove crucial - and so it came to be.

Ollie Jones profited from a dropped Birchgrove pass to hack upfield and win the race over 70 metres, scooping up the ball with superb hands to dive over for his second and crucial try.

Gallafant's conversion seemed to make the game safe at 26-15 with only five minutes of normal time remaining.

However, a large amount of stoppage time took the match well beyond 80 minutes and Birchgrove struck yet again with an unconverted try to bring it back to just 26-20, but they couldn't find that elusive additional score and Porthcawl got the vital win, taking them to third place in the division.

The Seaweeds go back on the road over the next two weeks, away at Ystradgynlais on Saturday, then Pontardawe the following week.

Porthcawl are looking for a physio/medic, with remuneration by arrangement and suitably experienced and qualified persons should call Chris Wintle on 07977 090176.

PF

(SEE PICTURES FROM THE GAME ON PAGE 22)

Scrum half Tom Briggs evades a tackle.

Kenfig Hill cruise to win over Nantyffyllon

KENFIG HILL started with a bang, opening the scoring with a try by right winger Chris Tossell with the first move of the game.

Nantyfyllon came back into the game with a penalty by outside half Andrew Maynard; though this proved to be their last score of the game as Kenfig Hill took complete control.

Tossell then earned himself a yellow card for an infringement, but this made no difference to the rampant Mules and second row Gareth Russell showed some fine running skills to cross the line, converted by centre and captain Rhodri Clark.

This was followed by a try by loosehead prop Gavin Jenkins with a dazzling run from the 25 metre line, converted by Clark. Tossell scored his second try on his return to the fray.

Full back Raymond Evans showed strength and skill to add to the score, taking a high ball and bursting through the covering defence for his try, with Clark again being accurate with the conversion.

This gave a half time score of Kenfig Hill 31, Nantyfyllon 3.

Kenfig Hill started the second half playing fast, open rugby and an inch perfect pass by Shaun Burnell gave Rhodri Clark a try which he converted himself. Back row forward Thomas Maund then sprinted over for a try straight from the kick off, converted by Clark.

Nanty then had a player yellow carded which put them on the defensive.

Last year's Kenfig Hill/Cornelly youth captain Shaun Burnell scored his first league try when he ran up the tramlines to score, while last year's youth hooker Ashley Hickey, not wanting to be outdone, also scored his first league try.

Nantyfyllon then went on the offensive and put Kenfig Hill under pressure but their defence was determined and survived a number of scrums. They were under further pressure when second row Gareth Russell was yellow carded for excessive bumping of the gums.

The Mules came back into the game in the dying minutes of the game, scoring tries through outside half Lloyd Giles and Maund, who scored his second try of the game, both of which were converted by Clark.

This gave a final score of Kenfig Hill 71, Nantyfyllon 3.

The referee's man of the match was Rhodri Clark and Steve Gillard won the Prince of Wales meal for two.

Shaun Burnell was again outstanding in defence, putting in some telling tackles. Tom Briggs had another good performance at scrum half and Ashley Hickey played well at hooker, while Morgan Evans gave a good display on his debut for the Mules.

Loose head prop Gavin Jenkins dives for his try.

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